

B. Worship Habit #3: Take next steps in submitting to the truth.

²³ *"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him."* John 4:23

IV. WORSHIP INCLUDES GENEROSITY

A. They opened their treasures and presented gifts to Jesus

² *"...and when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh."*
Matthew 2:11b

B. They brought gold, frankincense and myrrh.

- Gold represented Christ's Kingship.

³³ *"And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."* Luke 1:33

- Frankincense represented Christ's Deity.

³⁴ *"And the LORD said to Moses: 'Take sweet spices, stacte and onycha and galbanum, and pure frankincense with these sweet spices; there shall be equal amounts of each."*

³⁵ *You shall make of these an incense, a compound according to the art of the perfumer, salted, pure, and holy."*
Exodus 30:34-36

- Myrrh represented Christ's Death and Burial.

²³ *"Then they gave Him wine mingled with myrrh to drink, but He did not take it."*
Mark 15:23

C. Worship Habit #4: Bring the tithe and offerings.

¹⁰ *"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, 'If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.'"*
Malachi 3:10

WORSHIP THE LIGHT

THE LIGHT HAS COME!

Worship The Light
Pastor Steve Reynolds

Introduction:

A. Merry Christmas! We like Christmas white and bright. It's the perfect time to focus on JESUS, THE LIGHT HAS COME!

Have you ever considered the very first thing God created was light? Genesis 1:3 reveals, *"Then God said, 'Let there be light; and there was light.'"* God created light first because nothing can literally survive physically without it.

In a similar way Jesus came to earth as God wrapped in flesh to be light and to rescue us from darkness. He did this because none of us can thrive spiritually, emotionally or mentally without Jesus as our Light.

¹² *"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.'"*
John 8:12

⁴⁶ *"I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness."*
John 12:46

B. You might feel like the light has gone out in your life. Attend THE LIGHT HAS COME! Teaching Series to discover how the Light of Christmas can brighten your dark days.

Dec 7	Believe The Light
Dec 14	Celebrate The Light
TODAY	Worship The Light
Dec 23-24	Receive The Light
Dec 28	Share The Light

TEXT: Matthew 2:1-12

This story takes place when Jesus is one to two years old.
Matthew 2:11 tells us:

1. He is no longer in a manger, but now in a house.
2. He is no longer a baby, but now a young Child.

HOW TO WORSHIP THE LIGHT

I. WORSHIP FOCUSES ON JESUS

A. The star represents Jesus.

² *"saying, 'Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His Star in the East and have come to worship Him.'"*
Matthew 2:2

B. They followed the star and fell down and worshipped Jesus.

⁹ *"When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was.*

¹⁰ *When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.*

¹¹ *And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him..."*
Matthew 2:9-11a

C. Worship Habit #1: Make a growing relationship with the Lord your priority.

¹ *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.*

² *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."*

Romans 12:1-2

II. WORSHIP REQUIRES COMMITMENT

A. The trip to worship Jesus was time consuming and uncomfortable

¹ *"Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, ^[a]wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,"*

Matthew 2:1

They may have been from as far away as Babylon which would have been about 300 miles and it was over rugged terrain.

B. The trip to worship Jesus was dangerous.

³ *"When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him."*
Matthew 2:3

⁷ *"Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared.*

⁸ *And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.'"*
Matthew 2:7-8

¹² *"Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way."*
Matthew 2:12

Herod was king. They had to deal with him because Jesus was born within his jurisdiction. He was a cruel and deceitful man. He had all the male babies murdered in an attempt to kill Jesus (Matthew 2:16-18).

C. Worship Habit #2: Block out Sunday mornings to faithfully attend a church worship service.

²⁵ *"not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."*

Hebrews 10:25

III. WORSHIP OBEYS THE BIBLE

A. They were led by the Word of God.

⁴ *"And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.*

⁵ *So they said to him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:*

⁶ *'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd My people, Israel.'"*

Matthew 2:4-6

² *"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."* Micah 5:2