

**THE GOSPEL OF
THE KINGDOM**



A SERIES ON
MATTHEW 1-7

King Jesus, the Blessing for the Nations

Matthew 2:1 - 12

Sermon Notes: _____

Prayer Requests: _____

1. What insight, principle, or observation from the message did you find most helpful, most challenging, or most troubling? Please explain.
2. What were you particularly thankful for this Thanksgiving? Is there anything you want to share with your group?
3. Consider the current political climate in our town, province, country, and world.
 - a. Compare what we know about Herod to our politicians and leaders today.
 - b. What are some conclusions we should draw from this?
4. "Wise man" translates the word *magi*, which is used in Daniel 2:2 and 2:10.
 - a. Based on their experiences from the previous 600 years, how might Jewish readers of Matthew have responded to this description of *magi* worshipping the Messiah?
 - b. How do you respond to this?
 - c. How is your heart for the nations? Is there a particular type or group of people that you struggle with? What are some lessons for you from this passage?
5. Read Micah 5:1-6, taking note of any insights or observations.
 - a. Other than the place of His birth, what else do we learn about Jesus in this passage?
 - b. Are you surprised that the religious leaders could be so familiar with this passage and yet totally miss the chance to worship the Messiah?
 - c. How would you rate your own familiarity with Scripture?
 - d. Have you ever been guilty of knowing Scripture but feeling cold towards Christ?
 - e. What can we do about this?
6. Consider what we've heard about "the Christmas story" in the past two weeks.
 - a. Has your understanding of the Christmas story stretched or challenged at all?
 - b. How should the things we've learned impact the way we celebrate Christmas? i.e. Are there ways you can bring your celebration of Christmas more in line with the real story, especially considering God's plan to bless the nations in Christ?
7. What's one way you'll deliberately engage in warm-hearted worship of Jesus this week?