

the Wonder of Christmas

unexpected grace through unlikely means

12.19.21

PREVENIENT GRACE

MATTHEW 2:1-12

PASTOR JOSHUA BROOKS

1) Why are the Magi so often called “kings” or “wise men”?

• It’s an attempt to “clean up” the fact that the first worshipers of Jesus were _____ from ancient Babylon.

➡ “All the counsel you have received has only worn you out! Let your _____ come forward, those _____ who make predictions month by month, let them save you from what is coming upon you. Surely they are like stubble; the fire will burn them up. They cannot even save themselves...” (Isaiah 47:13-14a)

2) And yet...

• God so longs for those who are not yet His people to know Jesus - that He uses the _____ to get these quasi-religious astrologers pointed in the right direction!

➡ _____ Grace, the grace that comes _____ we even know God

3) The Star only got the Magi so far...

• The star got them pointed in the right direction: to _____. But it would take God’s Word to get them to _____: where Jesus was born. (Matt 2:5-6)

4) The Purpose of the Pilgrimage?

• To bow down and _____ Jesus. (Matt 2:11)

let’s connect!

12.19.21
10:30 A.M.

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The Chapters of the Magi's Story

Chapter 1 - God's _____ grace gets them moving in the right direction

Chapter 2 - They _____ on every piece of truth that comes their way

Chapter 3 - Their journey ultimately leads to a _____

Chapter 4 - There is a _____ associated with Christ

Chapter 5 - A life of trusting Jesus is marked by the _____ and _____

➡ "We all want _____, but we spend our lives _____ the context where miracles happen." (Erwin McManus)

Next Steps

- 1) Put your _____ in Jesus as Savior and King, allowing Him to forgive you and lead you into the life He created you to live.
- 2) Begin a journey of _____ out the claims of Jesus: reading His Word and checking out the resource page on our website that's dedicated to helping folks explore the evidence for the claims of Christ.
- 3) _____ what God has shown you or spoken to you about, and then _____ on it.

PRAYER REQUEST

Requests will be prayed for by the prayer team.

YOUR NEXT STEP

- I AM PUTTING MY TRUST IN JESUS AS MY LORD AND SAVIOR
- I AM INTERESTED IN BEING BAPTIZED
- I AM INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A MINISTRY TEAM

Prefer to Send a Text? Text **NEXT** to **574-498-2140**