

## Small Group Discussion Questions

Following the Weekend of December 20-21, 2025

No need to answer every question. Feel free to jump around.

### Joy in the Journey

(Matthew 2:1-12)

KJ Tencza, Pastor of Church Connections

### Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud Matthew 2:1-12.

What words, phrases, concepts, or images from these verses stand out to you as you just read them, or create curiosity for you in some way?

What aspects of Pastor KJ's message gave you fresh insight into this passage, or helped you the most in understanding these verses and what we experience here?

Within this passage, Pastor KJ shares a story of joy that unfolds over time.

When have you been in a season where joy seemed absent or far away?

What level of joy are you experiencing in your current season of life?

Pastor KJ shared how the Magi were trained to see things that others could easily miss – offering a different and deeper perspective.

What insights have you been given that allow you to have hope for a joy-filled future that others might miss?

KJ spoke of how the star provided the Magi their next step.

Where are you currently looking to discover your own next steps?

What helps guide you?

While the star provided the Magi next steps, it did not provide a path free of hardship.

When have you exhibited the faith to take the next step even when the next step took you to/through difficult events?

If you feel called to take a next step today and are nervous where this will lead, share what you are experiencing with your group.

The Magi endured a long journey to their destination. (Matt. 2:1-3)

When has a long journey led you to an even more meaningful experience of joy?

If you are amid a long journey right now, what is fueling you through this journey?

When the Magi encounter Jesus, we see them demonstrate humility through the giving of gifts (Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh). (Matt. 2:11)

What is the expression of your heart when you most fully encounter the presence of Jesus?

The joy of encountering Jesus set the Magi on a new path. (Matt. 2:12)

When, if ever, has your encountering of Jesus set you on a new course?

Conclude by praying for one another in taking practical next steps in applying this weekend's message and group discussion, after which pray for group needs and concerns.

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