WE HAVE COME TO WORSHIP HIM

Matthew 2:1–12

Key Verse: 2:11

1. What is the setting? (1a) What is the significance that Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea? (see vv.5–6; Lk2:4; Mt1:1) Imagine what “the time of King Herod” must have been like for the people (see vv.3,16–18; 4:16).
2. Who is introduced in verse 1b? Who were these people? (cf. Da1:20; 2:2) Why had they traveled to Jerusalem? (2) How is “his star” described, and what is its significance? (see vv. 7,9; Nu24:17) What does the word “worship” mean? Why would these men travel such a long distance to do this? In verse 2 how is Jesus contrasted with Herod?
3. How did Herod and all Jerusalem respond to the Magi’s question, and why? (3) What did Herod do? (4) What was his real reason for wanting to know this? (7–8,13,16) How are the Magi contrasted with Herod, the chief priests and teachers of the law? (2,4,5)
4. Read verse 6. Why would Bethlehem be considered one of the “least” places in Judah? What kind of ruler for Israel would come from there? What does it mean that our King Jesus is our Shepherd? (see Rev7:17)
5. What happened when the Magi left Herod? (9) How did they respond to this? (10) What does it mean that they were “overjoyed”? How can we have this kind of joy?
6. Read verse 11. What did the Magi do for the child? What is the meaning of their bowing down and worshipping? Of their gifts? What did they do afterwards? (12) In light of this passage, who is Jesus? (2,6,11) Why is it so important to worship him?