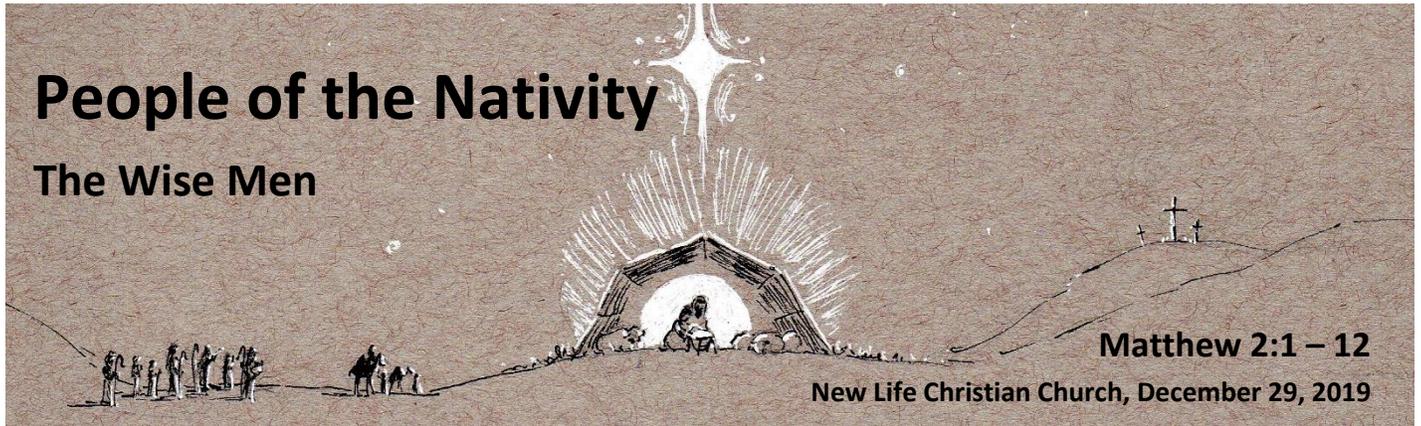


# People of the Nativity

## The Wise Men



### OPEN IT

1. Think of something you once strongly desired. When you got it, did it fulfill your expectations? Explain why or why not.

In the passage you are about to read, Wise Men are diligently seeking something they strongly desired to find - a long awaited king. In this lesson you will look at their journey and examine the actions they took to find the King. Likewise, you will look at the journey and actions you must take in order to find the same King the Wise Men sought and found.

Read Matthew 2:1 – 12.

### EXPLORE IT

2. There are many traditions and myths in church history about the Wise Men which may or may not be true. But strictly from the information in this passage, what can you discover about them?

Describe the details of their search for Jesus.

3. How has knowing Jesus involved you in a search or journey?
4. How are the Wise Men different from the religious leaders in this passage?
5. On hearing of Jesus' birth from the searching Wise Men, Herod also begins a search for the newborn King. How does his search compare with that of the Wise Men?
6. The response of the Wise Men and Herod are typical of the ways people respond to Jesus today. What factors might cause people to respond to Jesus in such radically different ways?

7. Do the actions of the Wise Men provide an example for us? Explain.

**APPLY IT**

8. Matt suggested four things he saw in the Wise Men that you also can do to grow stronger in your faith as you seek Jesus.

- Examine your hearing (listening to God)
- Seek counsel of other people
- Immerse yourself in the Bible
- Immerse yourself in prayer

Which of these four ways are you strongest? Weakest?

What one practical thing can you do to maintain that strength and improve the weakness?