



Christmas Sweater Sunday December 18th

Following the Birth of Jesus many came to see mother and child. We will join the shepherds discovering the Christ Child with this special service the Wednesday after Christmas.

**JOIN PASTOR BOB AND PATTI
FOR OUR
CHRISTMAS SHEPHERD'S SERVICE
DECEMBER 28TH
6-7 PM**

**Family
Christmas
Service**

Sunday December 25 at 10 a.m.



Matthew 2.1-12

Myths & Facts Surrounding the Wise Men

1. They were three in number.
2. They were kings.
3. They were from the Orient (i.e. Far East).
4. They were named Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.
5. One of them was a black man.
6. They visited the baby Jesus in a stable.
7. They were astrologers who followed an astronomical comet or nova to Bethlehem.

Taking the Long Way Around

- ◆ They arrived from the _____ , went to Jerusalem, and asked Herod where the new King was.*
- ◆ _____ asked the Chief Priest and teachers of the Law where to find this promised king.
- ◆ Herod sent the Magi to _____ .
- ◆ They _____ the star the rest of the way to Bethlehem, and it _____ over the house where Jesus was.

3 Gifts—3 Ministries of Jesus

- ◆ Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of _____, of _____, and of _____.
- ◆ _____: This is symbolic of a _____. He is Lord of Lords and King of Kings. Rev. 1.13 & 17.14
- ◆ _____: Burned by the _____. Luke 1.9 Symbolic of _____ rising to God. Rev. 5.8
- ◆ _____: He is a suffering _____ who suffered and died for our sins. On the Cross. Mk. 15.22-24 At his Burial. Jn. 19.38-40

3 Gifts—& The Trichotomous Nature of Jesus

- ◆ Then they ... presented him with gifts of _____, of _____, and of _____.
- ◆ 1 Th. 5.23 We are _____, _____ (soul), & _____. We are _____, or we are made up of 3 parts.
- ◆ _____: This is about the _____. Gold is seen as indestructible. Our spirit is imperishable. 1 Co. 15.51-53
- ◆ _____: This is our _____. It is about _____ your will to His will. Prayer Mt. 6.10, Mt. 26.42
- ◆ _____: This is about the physical _____. The corruptible body that will die and be buried. Ge. 3.19

Understanding The Ministry of Giving

- ◆ Then they ... presented him with _____ of GOLD, of INCENSE, and of MYRRH.
- ◆ Beyond the symbolism, there was a designed _____ for giving the three gifts.

- ◆ Joseph and Mary, the parents of Jesus, were of the lower class and very _____. They were about to be surprised, as their lives were interrupted, and they had to adapt.
- ◆ When (the Wise Men) had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to _____. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." Mt. 2. 13
- ◆ The Wise Men show us how God uses _____ to make His purpose & plans possible.
- ◆ Like the Shepherds the Wise Men _____ Jesus by praising and glorifying Him.
- ◆ The Wise Men also _____ for the needs of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus through their gifts.^
- ◆ Giving is one of the _____ points of Christian growth.*
- ◆ Giving comes with a _____. Lk. 6.38 **
- ◆ Giving demonstrates your _____ to the calling and ministry of the Church.
- ◆ The Wise Men gave _____ time.*
- ◆ The Christian believer is called on to _____:
- ◆ _____: This represents personal involvement in ministry, worship, fellowship, and the outreach of the local church.
- ◆ _____: This is using your gifts as part of the whole body of Christ. Everyone doing their part.
- ◆ _____: This represents consistent, committed, financial support of Christian Ministry.
- ◆ The Wise Men understood giving, worship, and that finding and serving _____ is the most important thing a believer can do. You should join them...