Wisdom at Christmas

FAMILY THEME: Wise Men Seek Him STUDY TEXT: Matthew 1:18—2:12 December 23, 2018

Be willing to do whatever God leads you to do. We may be weak or seem ill equipped to do what He indicates, but our concern is simply being available to God. If God is leading, He will make it possible. That first step—openness and willingness—is often the hardest one. Or to put it another way, without that first step, there will never be much of a journey. Submit to His will day in and day out, whatever that might be. **Discussion**:

- What are some examples of things God leads us to do that are difficult to obey?
- Why is being open to God's leading the wise thing to do?

Seek and follow God's leading each day. Follow is an interesting verb. Some people follow politics, others follow sports, and some follow the latest trends in fashion, technology, etc. To follow means to seek out, to take the time to see what is going on. To follow God's leading will never come automatically. We must seek it out, being always on the alert to see what new developments are taking place. It calls for sustained effort, daily putting God's Word into action and walking in close relationship with God, listening for His prompting. **Discussion**:

- What kinds of efforts might we need to make to follow God's leading?
- God may not give us more direction until we do what He has already led us to do.
- How could you take the next step this week in something God has already led you to do?

Worship the Savior born to us. Worship means to acknowledge the worth of that which we worship. In a world of darkness and cruelty, how could a God of light and compassion deserve anything less than our full acknowledgement of His glory and worth? Worship takes different forms, privately and publicly. Its core remains to acknowledge the glory of the God who continues to work in His world to bring forgiveness and restoration to those who follow Him. True worship is the greatest gift we can offer. **Discussion:**

- What reasons or attributes make our Savior worthy of worship?
- What forms might worship take in our time and culture?