



Bring Your Gifts

Sunday, December 13, 2015

Dave Michel

Stepping Stones Community Church

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:1-2 NLT

Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!" After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:7-11 NLT

1. Giving brings _____

- _____ or _____?
- _____ as an act of worship

2. The gifts of the wise men

- Gold - _____
- Frankincense - _____
- Myrrh - _____

3. _____ gives

- Give God the _____
We bring God our first and best and trust him to bless the rest
- _____ is better than _____

For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16 NLT

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.
Romans 5:8 NLT

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the LORD and turn away from evil. Then you will have healing for your body and strength for your bones. Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.
Proverbs 3:5-10 NLT

You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!
Malachi 3:9-10 NLT

Next Steps:

- Read and meditate on Matthew 2 (wise men story)
- Commit to worship through giving
- Intentionally choose ways to give this season that bring joy to God: _____
- Commit to tithing / increasing my giving
- _____