

# The First Noel – Responding to the King (Overcoming Self-centeredness)

Wylie United Methodist Church  
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – December 13, 2015

## Matthew 2:1-12

1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." 3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. 5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: (*Micah 5:2*) 6 "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel." 7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." 9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The birth of Jesus should cause us to...

## 1. PASSIONATELY SEEK THE KING

### Matt 2:1-2

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The birth of Jesus should cause us to...

## 2. EXPERIENCE GREAT JOY

### Luke 2:10-11 (Angel to the shepherds)

10 "... I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."

### Matt 2:10

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

The birth of Jesus should cause us to...

## 3. WORSHIP HIM

### Matt 2:2b

"... We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

### Matt 2:11a

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.

### Matt 28:17 (The resurrected Jesus)

When they saw him, they worshiped him;

The birth of Jesus should cause us to...

## 4. SACRIFICIALLY GIVE

### Matt 2:11b

Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

### John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, so that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

God is a giver. And He calls us to be givers.

### Phil 2:3-11

...Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus..."