Lesson Text: Matthew 2:1-12

King James Version (KJV)

I. THE QUESTION FROM THE WISE MEN (Matthew 2:1-2)

1. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

2. Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

II. THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO THE WISE MEN (Matthew 2:7-8)

7. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

8. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.
III. THE WORSHIP BY THE WISE MEN (Matthew 2:9-12)

9. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

11. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

12. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

IV. THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT (Matthew 2:13-15)

13. And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.
14. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

15. And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

New International Version (NIV)

I. THE QUESTION FROM THE WISE MEN (Matthew 2:1-2)

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 when it rose and have come to worship him.”

II. THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO THE WISE MEN (Matthew 2:7-8)

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 search
carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

III. THE WORSHIP BY THE WISE MEN (Matthew 2:9-12)

9. After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose 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, frankincense and myrrh.

12. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

IV. THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT (Matthew 2:13-15)

13. When they 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 Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”
14. So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt,

15. where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

**PRACTICAL POINTS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. God’s resources are unlimited. He can even use a star to give direction (Matthew 2:1-2).

2. It’s good to be able to discern the good or evil intent of those with whom we associate (Matthew 2:7-8).

3. God’s promised blessings are for those who will follow His leading for their lives, even though it may involve hardship (Matthew 2:9-10).

4. Our best gift to the LORD is to serve Him faithfully with our lives (Matthew 2:11).

5. It is not unusual for God to bring a change of direction into the lives of His children, sometimes it’s necessary (Matthew 2:12).
6. It’s always best to obey whatever God tells us to do because He knows what’s in our future, and we don’t (Matthew 2:13-15).