

No Ordinary Baby
Christmas 2023
Pastor Tim Allen

Key Truth: The events surrounding the birth of Jesus the Christ remind us of his extraordinary nature and should elicit in us extraordinary worship.

With the arrival of the wise men, startling things happen that remind us that Jesus, the baby in the manger, now in a house (v. 11) was no ordinary baby. Even though Jesus isn't the main actor in this narrative, the story is about him. Matthew, and indeed all the Gospel writers have one goal in mind: to present Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Messiah and Savior of the world as the ultimate object of our faith, trust, obedience, and loyalty.

DISCUSS

Read **Matthew 2:1-12** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon entitled **"No Ordinary Baby."**

DIG IN

1. Jesus' birth moved Stars and People.

Recount the events that led Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. In what ways did God specifically move people to ensure Jesus would be born in David's hometown?

What theories have you heard about the existence of the Star? Which seems most plausible? In what ways did God prophesy and bring about this Star in the sky?

2. Jesus was born King ...of all Nations.

In what ways is it important that Jesus was born King rather than merely made king after his birth?

Can you think of any biblical prophecies that point to Jesus as King of all nations? What does the wise men worshipping Jesus say about him being more than just a king (v. 2)?

3. Jesus' birth Troubles False Kings.

Why was Herod troubled when he heard the news about the King's birth? Why were the people of Jerusalem troubled?

In what ways does the birth of the true King trouble false kings?

4. Jesus' birth elicits Joy, Worship, and Obedience.

If the wise men were Gentiles, why would they worship a king of a different people group? What does that say about Christ's identity?

In what ways did the wise men obey the King of the Jews?

Do you agree that we sometimes fail to give Christ due obedience and worship? Why or why not?

DO

What lessons do you learn from these verses that you will take with you throughout the coming week?