

December 27 / Sunday

King Forever, Ceasing Never

Read [Matthew 2:1-12](#)



28 / Mon – Looking for the newly-born king | Read [Matthew 2:1-2](#) / [John 19:19-20](#)

Although the popular Christmas carol describes the Magi as kings, there is no evidence that they were. They must have been astronomers, however, because they recognized an unusual star. It is not recorded how they knew this star signified that a new king of the Jews was born but something compelled them to travel hundreds of miles to honor him. What compels you to search for Jesus, the baby who grew up to become the king on a cross?

29 / Tue – Two kinds of wise | Read [Matthew 2:12](#) / [James 3:13-18](#) / [Proverbs 13:20](#)

The Magi are often called *wise men*, and they were! Notice how quickly they chose to follow God's directions instead of King Herod's. Do you consider yourself a wise person? James describes two types of wisdom. Do you know anyone who fits the first description in verses 14-16? When you read the second description in verse 17, who comes to mind? Which type of people do you spend most of your time with? As you see in Proverbs, it's important!

30 / Wed – Life experience | Read [Proverbs 2:6-22](#)

As you read these verses, here are some questions to consider. Where does a person get wisdom? What are some benefits of growing in wisdom? What are specific examples in your own life where wisdom protected you? What are some consequences you may have experienced when you didn't choose wisely? Based on your reflections, if you were to give advice to a younger person today, what would that be?

31 / Thu – A loaded question | Read [James 1:5](#) / [1 Kings 3:5-14](#)

If you are being honest, there are probably times in your life when you absolutely do not know what to do next. What then? One example of just such a situation is found in a famous story from the Old Testament book of 1 Kings. Read the question that was asked in v. 5. What was the answer in v. 7-9 and the reason for that specific request? What part do you think motives play in how God responds when you ask for something?

01 / Fri – A new beginning | Read [Luke 2:39-40, 52](#)

Some would say that Solomon was the wisest person who ever lived. But that is not totally correct. It is Jesus. As you read the gospels, pay special attention to his words when he was being tempted in Matthew 4 or the way he handled the case of the adulterous woman in John 8. And his answer to the trick question about paying taxes in Luke 19 was especially brilliant. Jesus wasn't born wise; he grew into it. Does that give you hope for yourself at the start of this new year?

02 / Sat – Now that's a king! | Read [Revelation 1:5-7](#) and [19:11-16](#) / [Philippians 2:9-11](#)

Back to the wise men...they worshipped a baby king. Today, we worship the king who died for his people's sin. But in the future, he will be the king before whom all humankind will bow. As you read the description of Jesus in Revelation 19, how does it affect your perceptions of him? If it leads you to a new respect for this king you serve, then you are holding the golden key. It opens the door to a storehouse of all the wisdom you will ever need to face the future unknowns.