

# Christmas

*How to get going when the waiting is over.*

December 19, 2021

Matthew 2:1-12

## Know what to do when the waiting is over.

When you wait a long time for something to happen and then it does, it can be hard to transition out of your waiting posture. But it's necessary. Otherwise, you might get stuck and end up without anything to show for all the hard work you put in. You don't want your waiting to go to waste! You don't want to miss out on the very thing that you've been hoping for all this time.

THINK IT OVER

**Have you ever had a hard time getting going after remaining dormant for a long time?**

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. 2 They asked, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We've seen his star in the east, and we've come to honor him."

1) \_\_\_\_\_ for your moment. It will come. (watch)

THINK IT OVER

**Are you in a watching posture? How can you do even better at 'watching' for your 'go' moment from God?**

3 When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. 4 He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. 5 They said, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote:

*6 You, Bethlehem, land of Judah, by no means are you least among the rulers of Judah, because from you will come one who governs, who will shepherd my people Israel."*

7 Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared.

2) Watch the \_\_\_\_\_ open and \_\_\_\_\_ right through them. (doors, walk)

THINK IT OVER

**What doors is God opening for you?  
Are you walking through them? Why?**

8 He (the king) sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you've found him, report to me so that I too may go and honor him." 9 When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were filled with joy

3) Stick with it. You need to \_\_\_\_\_ all the way.  
(follow through)

THINK IT OVER

**What are the barriers before you?  
What's keeping you from 'sticking with it'?**

11 They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

4) When you arrive, be sure to \_\_\_\_\_ and enjoy.  
God will \_\_\_\_\_ within you. (take it in) (grow)

THINK IT OVER

**Have you ever hesitated to fall to your  
knees before Jesus? How might you do so?**

**Next: Christmas Eve Worship  
2pm, 4pm, 6pm**

*The services are all outdoors. But if it is too cold  
or if it rains we will have the services indoors.*