

Prayer Items - December 31st

Pinecrest Housing

- Bless the Pinecrest team working faithfully every week towards the goal of completion.
- Pray for funds to move the project forward,
- Thankful to all volunteers as they clean-up the building site.
- Pray that God would make an easy path for government funding.
- Praise and thank God for this vital project.

Study Continued

7. Read Jeremiah 29:11-13. This promise was specifically for the Jews who were in exile in Babylon because of their disobedience - God made a promise to them that He would bring them back, but that they must seek Him with all their heart. The promise is also true for us. Jesus said, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you" (Read Matt 7:7-8).
The key is in seeking God with everything we've got, and not giving up. God has a plan and a future for all of us. How do we seek God with 'all our heart?' What does that look like in our daily lives?



Come to Jesus

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 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."

Matthew 2:1-2



Emmanuel Free Skate & Hot Chocolate!
Saturday January 6th @ Picton Arena 12-1pm

COME TO JESUS Matthew 2:1-12

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with _____
(Jeremiah 29:13)

JOURNEY OF FAITH v.1

v.1 Who were the Magi?

The journey of the Magi:

Your journey of faith:

STOPPING SHORT

Why were they in Jerusalem, when Jesus was in Bethlehem?

Herod (v.3):

Reasons we end up in the wrong place:
Prov 3:5-6

DON'T QUIT

Why do people quit?

6 Lessons from the wise men:

1. _____ God with everything you've got.
2. Make _____ central in your life (v.4-6, Micah 5:2)
3. Don't _____ when the going gets tough (v.3-9)
4. _____ Jesus with all your heart (v.11)
5. Give Him _____ (v.11)
6. Be _____ by God in everything you do
- even when you don't fully understand, or have all the answers (v.12)

1. Read Matthew 2:1-12. There were three groups of people who are the first mentioned as worshipping Jesus. The shepherds, who were regarded as outcasts, and 'ceremonially unclean.' There was Simeon and Anna (Luke 2:21-38), who were devout believers in God, and waiting for the Messiah. Then there were the wisemen, who were gentiles (not Jewish) who were seeking the one true God. What does this say about why Jesus came?
2. Review your notes on who the Magi were. According to the Roman historian Suetonius, there was a belief at that time, that a ruler would come from Judea. The Magi undoubtedly knew the prophecies of Daniel, as Daniel was the chief of the wisemen in Babylon many years before, and spoke about a coming Messiah. They possibly also knew that the Jewish scriptures that talk about a star rising out of Israel. But ultimately, it was the Spirit of God who led them to seek the newborn King. What were some of the things in your life that caused you to seek God?
3. Their journey brought them first to Jerusalem. Imagine their disappointment when King Herod knew nothing of a newborn king. How should we deal with disappointment and confusion when things don't work out the way you thought they would. Have there been times in your life when you thought you were doing exactly what God wanted, but things didn't work out the way you thought they would? (Read 1 Peter 5:7; Proverbs 3:5-6; Proverbs 14:12).
4. Ultimately, the wisemen's problem was that they were in the wrong place, and the newborn king wasn't an earthly king, but a Heavenly One. It was the Word of God that set them back on the right road. Read Matthew 2:3-4 and Micah 5:2. The wisemen followed the instruction of the scriptures and found Jesus. What does this say about our need to read and study the Bible, and then do what it says - even when we don't fully understand?
5. Pastor Peter gave six lessons that we get from the wisemen (see opposite). For each one, ask yourself what you need to do to learn from this and apply it to your life.

Study continued on back cover