



Family Devotional: The Shepherds, the Magi & the King

Theme: Jesus came for everyone, the nearby and the far away, the humble and the influential. God reveals Himself to ordinary people and to the nations so that all may come and worship the true King.

Focus Verse:

“Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”— Luke 2:10–11 (NKJV)

Other Scriptures:

- Luke 2:8–20
- Exodus 3:1–12
- 1 Samuel 16:10–13
- Matthew 2:1–12
- Isaiah 60:1–6
- Psalm 72:10–11

Devotional Thought:

The Christmas story shows us something amazing about God’s heart: He invites all kinds of people to meet Jesus.

The shepherds were ordinary, hardworking, often overlooked men simply doing their nightly job. They weren’t powerful or important, yet they received the very first announcement of Jesus’ birth.

The Magi, on the other hand, traveled from faraway lands. They were educated, respected, and wealthy. They studied the stars and followed a mysterious sign, trusting that it was pointing them to a King worth finding.

Two opposite groups.

Two very different backgrounds.

One Savior.

And both the shepherds and the Magi ended up doing the same thing: They worshiped Jesus.

This reminds us that God welcomes us no matter who we are, where we come from, or what our story looks like. Some of us feel ordinary like the shepherds. Some of us feel like we’re still searching, like the Magi. But all of us are invited to come and see the King.

Jesus came for the whole world, including your family.



Scripture Focus:

Luke 2:8–14 (NKJV)

“Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God.”

Matthew 2:1–2, 10–11 (NKJV)

“Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.’”

“When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”

Isaiah 60:3, 6 (NIV)

“Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.”

“...All from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.”

Psalms 72:10–11 (NIV)

“May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores bring tribute to Him... All kings will bow down to Him and all nations will serve Him.”

Talk About It (Family Discussion Questions):

1. The Shepherds –
 - a. Why do you think God chose ordinary shepherds to hear the news first?
 - b. When have you felt “ordinary” and how does it help to know God sees you?
 2. The Magi –
 - a. Why do you think the Magi traveled so far just to see Jesus?
 - b. What does their journey tell us about who Jesus is?
 3. What Do We Learn About God? -
 - a. What does it show about God that He welcomed both groups?
 - b. What does this teach us about how we should treat others?
 4. Personal Reflection –
 - a. Do you feel more like the shepherds or the Magi right now, nearby or far away from God?
 - b. What would it look like for you to “come and worship Jesus” this week?
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Weekly Challenge:

Pick one country together as a family.

- Find it on a map
- Learn something about it
- Pray for Christians living there

Then thank God that His story reaches every nation — and that Jesus is King of the whole world.

Bonus: Learn how to say “Merry Christmas” in that country’s language!

Family Prayer:

Father God,

Thank You for the shepherds who remind us You come close to the ordinary. Thank You for the Magi who remind us that Jesus is King of the whole world. Help our family see Christmas the way they did, with wonder, with worship, and with open hearts.

Show us how to come to You honestly, whether we feel far or near. Give us love for people everywhere and help us pray for believers all around the world this week. Thank You that Jesus is our Shepherd, our King, and our Savior.

In Jesus’ name, Amen.