Series *Sermon-based Growth Group Questions*

November 29, 2020

Isaiah 9:1-7, Matthew 1:18-24

Introductory Discussion:

What insight from Sunday's sermon did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or troubling (pick any or all of the above)?

Discussion:

1. Herod's priests, scribes and <u>all</u> of Jerusalem knew the scriptures regarding the Messiah. According to verse 5, how did they feel about the possibility that the Messiah might be here?

    a. They knew the scripture, and believed it. Why weren't they rejoicing?

2. The Magi, or Wisemen, may or may not have completely understood who the Child was, and yet they worshipped Him. What is the difference between their hearts and those of the people of Jerusalem?

    a. Are you allowing God to change your life or are you making him fit into your plans?

3. Why should the coming of the Child bring great joy?

4. Worship comes from the word "worth," literally meaning "worth-ship." To worship means to declare something's value. Discuss how valuable the Messiah is to you.

5. The Magi went on a long journey just to honor the Child. What does that tell you about what they thought about his value?

6. The Magi worship the Child even though he hasn't done anything yet. How does this represent a biblical view of hope?