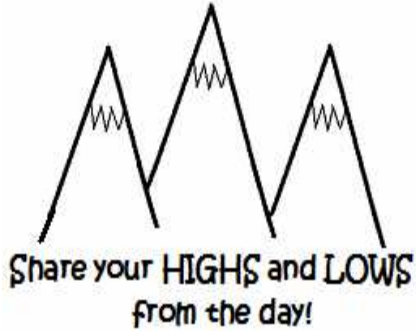


FAMILY TABLE DEVOS

“Families practicing the presence of God with the Word of God on Epiphany”



If you could have been in Bethlehem around the time Jesus was born, what gift would you have given Him?

1After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." 3When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. 5"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: 6" 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.'" 7Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.

8He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." 9After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. 12And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

THE WORD OF THE LORD!
THANKS BE TO GOD!

1. Where was Jesus born?
2. Why did the Magi – the Wisemen – want to search for Jesus?
3. What did Herod tell the Magi?
4. What led the Magi to baby Jesus?
5. What did the Magi bring Jesus?
6. Why didn't the Magi go and tell Herod where Jesus was?
7. THE MESSAGE: We can ALL act like the star that led the wisemen to Jesus. Each Christian can "let his or her light shine" so that others see it! Think of one thing you can do that makes your own light shine and can help others see Jesus in the world.



FAMILY CHALLENGE

There is an old European tradition for Epiphany. Every January 6th – the day of the Magi – families would write an Epiphany prayer or blessing to hang by their door. This doorway blessing stays up all year and was said to ward away evil spirits. Write your own Epiphany prayer or blessing to guard & bless your house in 2007.

