



## Bible Walk Out January 2021

### Walk 1 The Journey of the Magi

Get your walking shoes on, saddle up your camel, sunglasses to the ready – well maybe not in County Durham in January!

The usual format of the walk is to take about 20 minutes for each part walking and talking – usually about the Bible passage and the questions. Take as long as you would like to over each part – it's a flexible resource to fit in with you.

In today's walk we reflect on the journey of the Magi or Wise Men - Matthew 2 v 1-12.

Let's ask God to walk with us and be with us as we listen and reflect. Whether you are walking solo or with someone else, dedicate your walking and reflecting time to God.

#### Part 1

*Magi from the east came to Jerusalem<sup>2</sup> 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."*

Have a think about the journey the magi made – think about the distance, the time it would have taken, the lack of modern aids and service stations! What would the journey be like? What do you think they talked about? Where did they sleep? What kept them going?

Have a think about what keeps us going at this time? What keeps us going on our faith journey? Who helps to keep us going?

Take a moment to have a pray about things you have thought about.

#### Part 2

*Magi from the east came to Jerusalem*

The Magi got it wrong but that's not the main focus. They assumed an important child with a new star would have been born to be a king (in the traditional sense) and the kings lived in Jerusalem. They worked on the information they had and expected an outcome. When they found the child they were overjoyed – but I guess surprised.

What would have surprised them? It's a story full of surprises for different people. What other surprises in the story can you recall? Although we probably know the story backwards, what surprises you most about the story of Jesus' birth? I wonder if it's fair to say that God is a God of surprises. What has surprised you most in recent days and weeks.

Take a moment to have a pray about things you have thought about.

#### Part 3

*Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.*

Gifts. Such an essential item at Christmas for so many reasons. Hopefully you received some gifts this Christmas. Take a moment to remember your gifts, the strangest, the most unexpected, the one you had hoped for and maybe thank God for each of the people who gave the gifts. In all that has been happening around us and the perhaps limited way we have celebrated Christmas it could not be cancelled. It could not be stopped by government legislation, Covid-19 or newspaper headings. God gave his precious gift – Jesus Christ – to be with us and maybe more especially this year than ever. God's Son, a sign of God's love for us – me and you. God's gift given to all for all time. Let's take a moment to think about God's gift, Jesus Christ, the child born in unusual circumstances bringing surprises and promises for us all to share.

Maybe take a moment to receive again God's gift of new life in Christ.

Lets end our walk by offering all our thoughts and prayers to God. Let's pray for other people who have used or will use this Bible Walkout that we will all be blessed in all of our journeying. Let us whisper the words 'May the Lord bless us and keep us Amen.'

Look out for the next January Bible Walkout – and feel free to share this one if you know any who would like to join our 'walking club'.