

SERMON NOTES

December 11 & 12, 2022

All is Calm: Wisdom

Matthew 2:1-3,11-10

1. The Wise Men embody the basic wisdom decision every human being will have to make once they

_____.

Mathew 2:1-3

2. Ultimate Question: Who is sitting on _____?

3. The Wise Men are _____ who don't belong in

the Christmas Story.

Matthew 2:10-11

4. Apart from God's grace, _____.

Life Steps

All is Calm: Wisdom
December 10 & 11, 2022

Monday

Matthew 2:1-6

Reflect: How do you characterize your life journey; are you like the Magi searching for a king to honor or worship, or are you more like Herod trying to be the king who everyone honors and worships?

Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Tuesday

Matthew 2:7-10

Reflect: The story of the Magi can be seen as a spiritual quest that began with the appearance of a star. A star can happen at any time in your life. A star can be seen as a life interruption by an event that sends you on a spiritual quest. It could be pain, divorce, loss of a job, or the death of a dream. What is a star in your life, and where has it led you?

Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Wednesday

Matthew 2:11-12

Reflect: The King whom the Magi sought was born in a manger, poor and lowly, and died on a cross for our sins. What was the power that the Magi saw in that King, and how can that King help you find wisdom?

Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Thursday

Matthew 2:13-18

Reflect: Upon realizing that the Magi were wiser than himself and he had been "outwitted," Herod's bruised ego unleashed a fury that brought about pain and suffering to the innocent. Wisdom can be gained from the unwise actions of others. What wisdom will you glean from Herod's role in the birth story of Jesus?

Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Friday

Philippians 2:1-4

Reflect: How does Paul instruct us to be humble and to value others above ourselves? How difficult do you find it to set aside your own ambitions and to value others above yourself? Explain.

Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Saturday

Philippians 2:5-11

Reflect: What is your definition of humility? In what areas of your life are you lacking the wisdom of humility?

Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Sunday

Matthew 2:11-12

Reflect: Christmas is not your birthday. Christmas is Jesus' birthday. The Magi had the wisdom to worship the Christ Child by presenting their rare and costly gifts. There is no question their gifts were sacrificial. Prayerfully be considering the financial birthday gift you will give to Jesus as we gather to worship him on Christmas Eve.

Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.