



INCARNATION

GO FURTHER | DECEMBER 26 | JESUS IS LORD

START TALKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- What is your favorite popular Christmas song that you could sing all year?
- Who is your favorite Christmas character: Mary, Joseph, shepherds, innkeeper, etc.? Why?

START THINKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- Read Matthew 2:1-12
- What words or phrases stand out to you?
- Why do the wise men, astrologers from the east, want to meet Jesus?
- When they finally arrive, what is their response to seeing Jesus?
- Why do they not return to Herod?
- This is the first instance of non-Jews, Gentiles, bowing down to Jesus as Lord.

START SHARING | CHOOSE A QUESTION TO CREATE OPENNESS.

- In the New Testament, the word 'Savior' is used 24 times. 'Lord' is used more than 900 times.
- What is the difference between Jesus as Savior and Jesus as Lord?
- Read Acts 10:34-43
- The Gentiles are officially welcomed into the church in this section.
- Do we learn anything about Jesus as Lord in this passage? What are followers of Christ supposed to do?
- What can we do each day to practice and to show that Jesus is our Lord, the one who we follow?

START PRAYING | BE BOLD AND PRAY WITH POWER.

Lord Jesus, may we not only believe in you as our Savior, the one who redeems us from our sins, but follow you each and every day as our Lord. May we make choices every day to live, to act, and to move in the word like you do, to love God and to love our neighbors as you would. In your resurrected Savior's name we pray, Amen.

START DOING | COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

- For more on each character's response to Jesus, from Mary to the wise men, check out this 5-day devotional: <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/23113-christmas-reflections>