



Carrollton Christian Fellowship

Day 1: Observation - Setting the Stage

Reading: Matthew 2:1-6

Questions:

1. Who are the main characters in these verses?
2. What locations are mentioned?
3. What events are taking place?
4. What prophecies are cited?

Observation Notes:

People: Jesus, Herod, the Magi, chief priests, and scribes.

Locations: Bethlehem, the East, Jerusalem, Galilee

Events: Jesus' birth, Magi seeking Jesus, Herod's reaction.

Prophecies: Reference to Micah 5:2 in verse 6.

Chart:

Observation: Key individuals, locations, and events.

Interpretation:

Write down initial impressions about why these details are important.

Why might Matthew emphasize Jesus' birthplace, gentiles coming to worship Jesus, and the political climate under Herod?

Application:

What do these truths mean for you in your life?

Day 2: Observation - The Magi's Journey

Reading: Matthew 2:7-12

Questions:

1. What actions do the Magi take?
2. How does Herod communicate with the Magi?
3. What is the role of the star?

Observation Notes:

Actions of the Magi: They follow the star, speak with Herod, find Jesus, and present gifts.

Communication: Herod privately inquires about the star and sends them to Bethlehem.

Star's Role: Leads the Magi to where Jesus is.

Chart:

Observation: Actions of the Magi, Herod's instructions, and details about the star.

Interpretation:

The significance of the gifts (gold, frankincense, and myrrh) presented to Jesus.

How might the journey and actions of the Magi demonstrate their faith and dedication?

Application:

What do these truths mean for you in your life?

Day 3: Interpretation - Understanding Herod's Reaction

Reading: Matthew 2:13-15

Questions:

1. What prompts Joseph to flee to Egypt?
2. How does this fulfill prophecy?

3. How might Herod's reaction shape the narrative?

Chart:

Interpretation Notes:

Prompt to Flee: An angel warns Joseph in a dream.

Prophetic Fulfillment: Refer to Hosea 11:1.

Narrative Impact: Illustrates divine protection and fulfillment of prophecies.

Study Cross-References: Look up Hosea 11:1 and compare it with Matthew 2:15.

Reflect on how God's guidance and protection are portrayed through Joseph's obedience.

Application:

What can Joseph's immediate obedience teach us about responding to divine guidance?

Day 4: Interpretation - Herod's Threat

Reading: Matthew 2:16-18

Questions:

1. What does Herod do after learning he was outwitted by the Magi?
2. How does this fulfill prophecy?
3. What can we infer about Herod's character?

Chart:

Interpretation Notes:

Herod's Actions: Orders the massacre of boys two years and younger in Bethlehem.

Prophecy Fulfillment: Refer to Jeremiah 31:15.

Character Inferences: Herod's cruelty and determination to maintain power.

Study Cross-References: Look up Jeremiah 31:15 and compare it with Matthew 2:18.

The emotional and societal impact of Herod's decree.

How does the prophecy in Jeremiah 31:15 relate to the events in Matthew 2:16-18?

Application:

Day 5: Application - Returning from Egypt

Reading: Matthew 2:19-23

Questions:

1. What instructions does Joseph receive after Herod's death?
2. Why does Joseph go to Nazareth?
3. How does this fulfill prophecy?

Chart:

Interpretation:

Instructions Received: An angel tells Joseph to return to Israel.

Reason for Nazareth: Avoids danger from Herod's son, Archelaus.

Prophetic Fulfillment: The idea of Jesus being called a Nazarene.

Compare and Contrast: Look at the parallels between Israel's exodus from Egypt and Jesus' return.

Reflect on how God's guidance continues to lead Joseph and his family even in uncertain times.

Application:

Reflect on how God's guidance continues to lead Joseph and his family even in uncertain times.

What can we learn about trusting God's guidance from Joseph's actions and decisions?

Day 6: Synthesis - Integrating Themes

Reading: Review Matthew 2:1-23

Questions:

1. What are the recurring themes in this chapter?
2. How do these events fulfill Old Testament prophecies?
3. What response to Jesus' birth do we see from various characters?

Synthesis Notes:

Themes: Prophecy, divine guidance, obedience, opposition.

Prophecy Fulfillment: Each major event ties to Old Testament prophecies.

Responses: Magi's worship and gifts, Herod's hostility, Joseph's obedience.

Chart:

List out the prophecies cited in Matthew 2 and how they are fulfilled.

Application:

How do these fulfillments affect your understanding and faith in God's plan?

What does the harmony between Old Testament prophecies and New Testament fulfillment reveal about God's impact and being all knowing?

Day 7: Application - Personal Reflection and Action Steps

Reading: Reflect on Matthew 2:1-23

Questions:

1. How do the events and reactions in Matthew 2 inspire you to live differently?
2. Which character's response resonates most with you, and why?
3. What actions can you take to apply these lessons in your daily life?

Application Notes:

What does the Faith of the Magi, obedience of Joseph, awareness of resisting hostility like Herod mean for my life and how I respond to the Lord?

What are concrete steps Jesus wants to complete in you that you see in Matthew 2?

Going Forward:

Summarize your key takeaways and Jesus' commitment to carrying out the new birth He has desires and has promised to do in your life.

Write down at least three practical actions Jesus is asking you to trust Him in and wants to complete in your life based on this weeks study.

Closing Reflection and Prayer

End your week of study with a prayer, asking for God's help to internalize these lessons and to live out your faith more fully. Thank Him for the guidance and insights gained through this deeper exploration of Matthew 2.

By following this structured study guide, it will help you to gain a comprehensive understanding of Matthew 2, appreciate the depth of God's prophetic word, and apply its lessons to your daily life. The primary guidance into this week's study we rely on the Holy Spirit to provide the understanding of His Word, and we hope that this study will be a good tool that the Holy Spirit can use through the church for your equipping and edification.