

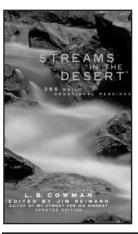
December 16, 2007 • Pastor Gregg Matte

Characters of Christmas: Herod & Magi

Matthew 2:1-12

- Who were the Magi? Fortune tellers or Wise men? Daniel 2:2, Acts 13:6
 - Understand...journey...worship
- Herod the Great...at the wrong things
 - Inherited position
 - Valiant military performance
 - Paranoid & Ruthless
 - Jesus was born King of the Jews to shepherd the people Micah 5:2
- Wise to God or Great in control?
 - Following God's direction leads to worship and freedom. Fearing God's direction leads to anger and control.
 - Wise men give their gifts to Christ. Psalm 68:29, Psalm 72:10 Fearful men destroy life to stay in control.
 - Wise worship brings life application. "They went home a different route." Matthew 2:12

(over ->)



2008 Church-wide Devotional Now Available in the Garden Bookstore Streams in the Desert by L.B. Cowman

"An updated version for the 21st century of one of the best-selling devotional books of all time, this text is based on the NIV and will lead you from life's dry, desolate places to the waters of the River of Life -- and beyond, to their very Source."

Regular edition - \$8.99 Large print edition - \$14.00 Free imprinting available, too!

Ready To Get In The Game?

Visit <u>HoustonsFirst.org</u> and click on the "Get in the Game" button. You'll be taken to a listing of over 130 opportunities to volunteer! Scan the whole list, or jump straight to a ministry that interests you. Then, complete and submit a brief online form and a team leader will contact you soon!

While every team is taking volunteers, here are some of our particular needs right now. Look for these online or contact the team leader below for more information.

- 1. K.I.L.N. Keep It Like New (Facilities). Volunteers will provide assistance by handling an assortment of minor repairs. Tasks include surveying the church to locate various maintenance needs. If you are the "Handy-Man" type, please consider helping us "Keep It Like New." (Ricky Robinson; ricky.robinson@hfbc.org; 713.957.5830)
- 2. Healthy Helpers (First Place). Volunteers will assist in communicating the vision of First Place. If you have a background in nutrition or are a professional at losing weight, we want to talk to you. (Carole Lewis; carole.lewis@hfbc.org; 713.957.6400)
- Band of Brothers Special Ops (Men's Ministry). Special Ops is a vitally essential team committed to developing opportunities for men to be transformed into pillars of integrity, courage, and strength. (Eric Reed; eric.reed@hfbc.org; 713.957.7680)
- 4. Food Pantry Team (Missions Training Center). Volunteers will assist the needy by distributing food and sharing Jesus with them. This is a great opportunity to serve the hurting people of the surrounding community. (Claudia Reyes; claudia.reyes@hfbc.org; 713.681.3521)
- 5. Special Events Team (Adult Enrichment). Volunteers will utilize creativity in developing themes, locations, food, entertainment, decorations, etc. for spiritual and social events. (Linda Wadsworth; linda.wadsworth@hfbc.org; 713.957.7692)