

**“They Saw the Star” Matthew 2:1-2 – Pastor Todd Dugard**

*God caused Christ to be conceived in Mary’s womb. God convinced Joseph to continue with his marriage to Mary. God fulfilled prophecy concerning the Saviour. Does God have to do anything more to excite you? What would that be?*

Dig In!

***“The birth of Jesus always elicits excitement and expectation in a true believer.”***

**Are you excited by what God has done ...not scorning it but searching it out? (2:1)**

- How can people scorn God’s work proclaimed in Matthew 1:17-25?
- How do doubts about the truthfulness of Matthew 1:17-25 affect a believer’s boldness as a witness for Christ?

***“You can’t be lazy or impatient and conduct a search for spiritual truth. This journey [is] demanding.”***

- What makes the search for Jesus demanding on people seeking him from outside of a Judeo-Christian culture?
- Who do you know that is seeking Christ now and how can you help them find him?

**Are you expectant for what God is doing and will do ...knowing who you are, why you’re here and where you’re going? (2:2)**

- How do you identify with those whom Jesus came to save?
- Have you ever taken time to define your purpose in life? How would you phrase it?
- Does the way you live each day bring you joyfully into God’s presence or does your daily lifestyle produce distance from or even hostility toward God?

Break Out!

- Consider carefully what you have your eyes on. If it is worthy of pursuit, how can the group help you catch up with it? If it is unworthy, seek to confess why you are still chasing it, and then repent.
- How are you taking the time to be re-excited by the Christmas story this year? OR If you have family, how are you leading the search for opportunities to celebrate God’s work in the past?

