

Message from God's Life-Giving Word

January 6, 2019

Journey with Jesus – The Magi

*This mystery is that the **Gentiles** are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and **partakers of the promise** in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.*

Ephesians 3:6

Epiphany, Joy to the World, and the reach of the curse

Notes on the story of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12):

In what ways are you an outsider?

*And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you **all the families of the earth shall be blessed.** Genesis 12:2-3*

*...but God shows his **love** for us in that while we were **still sinners**, Christ died for us.*
Romans 5:8

What does Radical Inclusion look like in God's economy?

Looking forward to 2019. Enjoy it!

Next Steps

1. Journal the following: Do you generally think of yourself as an insider or an outsider? Why or why not? When have you felt the most included? Excluded? Are there any effects of those experiences that still linger for you?
2. Read Ephesians 3:1-13 and Romans 5:1-11. What do these verses say about the work of Christ for you? What do they say about who God has resolved that you are in Him? How does this give you hope for your situation today and for eternity?
3. Think about someone in your life who is far from God. Imagine what it would be like to have them worship next to you in 2019. Be brave. Invite them to worship with you.