

# The “What ifs” of the Christmas Story

## Luke 2/Matthew 1-2, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

1.) The Gifts of the wise men...

1. Gold - The gift suitable for a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Frankincense - A fragrant gum resin used by the Hebrews in the \_\_\_\_\_ (incense)
3. Myrrh - A sweet smelling resin from a tree. Was used in preparing bodies for \_\_\_\_\_.

2.) **What if** the shepherds were content with just a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Angel's appearance?

3.) **What if** the wise men choose to \_\_\_\_\_ and contemplate the star from a far?

4.) **Beware:** The people who usually neglect Jesus and focus instead upon the trappings, symbols and distractions of the holidays are the \_\_\_\_\_.

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Growth Group Discussion Questions

(Complete at home on separate sheet of paper if needed)

1.) What is your happiest memory of Christmas past?

2.) If you could change one thing about how Christmas is celebrated today what would that be?

3.) Read today's text and as you read each section discuss what you consider the greatest lessons or deepest truths in each text. (Mary's pregnancy - Matthew 1:18-25 / The Nativity - Luke 2:1-7 / The shepherd's story- Luke 2:8-20 / The magi's visit - Matthew 2:1-12)

4.) What is the most important thing you hope to take out of Sunday's study to apply to your everyday life?

5.) Is there anything about the way you celebrate Christmas that you believe the Lord wants you to change? Discuss.

6.) Is there anything in today's text that troubles or confuses you? Discuss.