



Morning Star Las Cruces 2022 Discussion Questions

January 8, 2023 - Epiphany Sunday

Title: Starring . . . You

Text: Matthew 2:1-12

Discussion Questions

1. Do you have a history of making New Year's Resolutions? Why or why not? Have you ever made one that helped you to make a long-lasting change?

2. Have you been willing to rearrange your life to find or experience something new? Have you embarked on a long trip or relocated to take the next step in life? How did you come to those decisions? What did you learn along the way?

3. What about this week's message, "Starring . . . You," did you want to be sure to discuss with others? What was your takeaway from the message?

4. Read Matthew 2:1-12. With whom do you most identify in the story? What thoughts and feelings arise in you as you think about the story from the perspective of that character or characters?

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5. What do you think the magi, or wise men, were really seeking on their journey? Why would they be willing to travel to a distant land to find it? How did they know they found it in Jesus?

6. "Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans." Statements like this are common in our culture, attributed to John Lennon and others. What's the difference between making decisions and practicing discernment? How could that difference affect our plans?

7. Read Matthew 2:13-32. What role did Joseph's faith play in the decisions that he made and the actions that he took on behalf of his family? What difference did his faithfulness make for his people? For us?

8. Read John 14:25-31. Of what teachings do we most need to be reminded these days? How could following Jesus more closely help us to live with intention and to cultivate peace? (To read more about the teachings of Jesus, take a look at Matthew Chapters 5-7).

9. What would it mean for you to be guided by the Holy Spirit this year? What word or phrase could help you stay mindful of your connection with the Spirit? Could you write it on a star-shaped paper or digital star and keep it where you see it frequently?

10. How might your group pray for you during the beginning of the New Year?

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