

## OPENING DISCUSSION

What is the best gift you have ever received?

What is the best gift you have ever given?



## SERMON

What gifts did the Magi bring to Jesus? What is the significance of each gift?

Considering that non-Jewish Magi brought gifts to Jesus, what does this say about His identity, even as a baby?

How does this compare with Herod's reaction to Jesus? Why do you think he was so threatened by Jesus?

How does Isaiah's prophecy of the Magi show God's plan for the Messiah well in advance?

What does John 3:16 say about the true gift giver?

## APPLICATION

What does it mean to see Jesus as your king?

What does it mean to see Jesus as your high priest?

What does it mean to see Jesus as your great sacrifice?

What does it mean that Jesus is God's gift to us?

How can we live every day in light of God's gift of Jesus to His people?

Not a part of a Life Group at North Hills? Visit the church website and check out the different groups currently meeting. When you see one that interests you, click on the link provided and know that everyone will be glad you came!

<https://church.north-hills.org/connect/small-group-ministry>

# NORTH HILLS CHURCH

- 12/26/21 -

# Authentic

A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord. *Isaiah 60:6 (ESV)*

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. *Matthew 2:1-11 (ESV)*

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16 (ESV)*

## NORTH HILLS CHURCH

200 Admiral Callaghan Lane, Vallejo, CA 94591 • (707) 644-5286 • north-hills.org

2021-2022 Sermon Series: Authentic

### *Family Traditions: Giving Good Gifts*

Isaiah 60:6; Matthew 2:1-11; John 3:16

#### **AUTHENTIC PRINCIPLE:**

Jesus is God's \_\_\_\_\_ to a fallen world. Our gift to Jesus is our \_\_\_\_\_.

1. They brought \_\_\_\_\_ for a king.

2. They brought \_\_\_\_\_ for a priest.

3. They brought \_\_\_\_\_ for a sacrifice.

#### **RESPONSE:**

What will you bring as a \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus? Will you bring \_\_\_\_\_?

**Read the entire Bible chronologically in a year**

See the church newsletter for this week's Bible reading passages

(<https://church.north-hills.org/newsletters/weekly-newsletter>)



#### Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is an annual offering collected by Southern Baptists to support international missions. The offering was officially named in 1918 by Woman's Missionary Union in honor of the missionary to China who urged churches to start it and give sacrificially. Lottie was appointed to China as a missionary at age 33 and served there 39 years. She wore Chinese clothes and lived like her Chinese neighbors. Lottie had several nicknames in China—foreign devil, foreign lady teacher, heavenly book visitor, and the cookie maker (Lottie baked cookies to win the hearts of the children and families who were frightened of her). In 1912, famine, flood, and war encircled her China. Her friends were starving. In a final act of empathy, Lottie stopped eating and gave all her food away. When her friends realized the depth of her sickness, they put her on a boat to return to the United States. Lottie died on Christmas Eve while en route to the U.S. (see [www.wmu.com](http://www.wmu.com) for more information).

North Hills has set a goal to raise \$12,000 for international missions. As of December 20, \$6,040 has been donated. If you would like to make a contribution, please see the information below. When using an offering envelope, note it on your giving. When making a contribution online, select "Lottie Moon" in the dropdown menu. *Thanks!*

#### Service Opportunity

**Calling all problem solvers, analytical engineers, and critical thinkers ...**

Pastor Daniel is organizing a meeting to solve some drainage problems we are having on campus. Whenever we experience heavy rain, it adversely impacts operations during the week, drives teachers out of their classrooms, puts a heavy demand on the North Hills Maintenance Department, and causes preventable damage. If you would like to participate in a meeting to help diagnose and solve this problem, please speak with Pastor Daniel in person or send an email to [dbarrett@nhcsvallejo.org](mailto:dbarrett@nhcsvallejo.org) so he can schedule a meeting.

#### Outdoor Children's Ministry on Sunday mornings

Parents and guardians, we ask that you go to the **main entrance** of the Worship Center to check your child in. After service, please go to the Preschool Playground in a timely fashion to check your child out. While our Sunday morning Children's Worship is designed for children, it is not mandatory children attend. Parents and guardians are welcome to keep their children with them in the Worship Center if they prefer.

#### Communication Cards and Offering Envelopes

At the **main entrance** and **senior parking lot entrance** of the Worship Center, you will find special new boxes when you leave today. If you have filled out a Communication Card or Offering Envelope, please insert them into either of the boxes (please note the boxes will remain out for 15 minutes after the service). For those who prefer to contribute online, simply go to [north-hills.org](http://north-hills.org) and click on Support NH or text GIVE to (707) 289-7600.