



Peace with Others

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INTRODUCTION – Are we really that different?

Soccer game on a battlefield

DINE IN – Outsiders are welcome

Matthew 2:1-12

The wrong ethnicity - Gentile

The wrong religion - Magicians

The wrong approach - Political

The wrong way to Jesus – Astrology

The right heart - Worship

The right response – Gifts to honour a King

TAKE OUT – Peace flows from genuinely loving all people.

Do I value all people, even my Enemies, as much as God does?

John 3:16; Acts 17:22-31; Ephesians 3:14, 6:12; 2 Peter 3:9

Will I lay down my judgment and see them as God sees them?

Quick to Listen

Slow to Speak

Slow to become Angry

James 1:19-20; Matthew 7:1-5

CONCLUSION – Will I follow the King of Peace?

Romans 5:10-11

Gold – gift for a King

Frankincense – gift for a Priest

Myrrh – gift for someone about to die

Memory Verse:

The angel said, “Don’t be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David’s city. He is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:10-11, CEB)

Q & Eh? Text 647.330.2789 or email ask@themeetinghouse.ca

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

Warming Up...

1. As you look ahead to the New Year, what is one of your personal goals?
2. How did you do this week with your inner bear, rabbit or possum? Any stories of how God worked to help you have peace within?

Look to the Book...

3. Take a moment to recap Sunday’s teaching. Read through **Matthew 2:1-12** again, in two versions or more if possible. 1) As you read through the passage, even though it may be very familiar, what stands out as something new and significant as you hear it *this time*? 3) How do you imagine the conservative religious people would respond to the idea of Jesus being worshipped by pagan magicians but they missed out? What would be an equivalent situation today? 4) Why do you think God used a star to communicate to astrologers? Shouldn’t he have corrected them first? 5) Read **Acts 17:22-31**. What parallels do you see between this teaching by Paul and the story of the Magi? 6) What key principles should we as Christ-followers keep in mind when thinking about those from other religions or worldviews?

So What...?

4. Who is someone you may need to reach out to and seek reconciliation? What steps can you take this week to reach out and start this process?
5. Who can you invite into your life who is different from you as part of expressing God’s desire for peace among all people?
6. What can you do this week to be a peacemaker in your relationships?
7. **Take time to pray for each other in these areas and your next steps.**

The Meeting House | Sunday, Dec 18, 2011/Jan 1, 2012 | Tim Day

Notes are available online at themeetinghouse.ca/teaching or on your mobile device at youversion.com (go to Live and search for *The Meeting House*).