

## A Journey of Joy

Part 3 of *The Star: A Journey to Christmas*  
Psalm 126:5; Matthew 2:10-11; 1 Peter 1:8  
Pastor Jon Ashley  
December 17, 2017



*Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.*

- 1 Peter 1:8 (NIV)

### 1. The Shepherds' Journey (Luke 2:9-14)

- They were terrified
- God's Angel announced Good News
- Heaven erupted with joy

### 2. Our Journey

- Joy and Pain
- Joy and Connection
- Joy and Worship

### 3. Step into the Journey of Joy

- Connect with others
- Be purposefully thankful
- Worship God for who He is

Conclusion: Follow the star on a journey of joy this Christmas!

### REFLECT (Questions to respond to this week):

- Read today's Bible passages. How is the Holy Spirit speaking to you?
- Reflect on your most joyful Christmas. What made it joy-filled?
- What circumstances in your life are causing you fear or pain?
- In what ways do struggles bring connection with others?
- Why does experiencing joy lead to worship?
- What will you do to step into the journey of joy this Christmas?

## Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:10-11 (NLT)

<sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! <sup>11</sup> They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

Next Sunday, Dec. 24

**4:30 p.m.**

(no 9:00 or 10:30 a.m. services)

***The Star: A Journey to Christmas***

(John 8:12; Ephesians 3:17-19)

## New Year's Eve Day

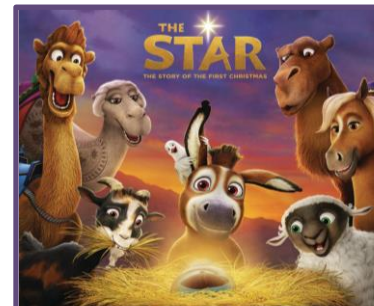
Sunday, Dec. 31

**9:00 a.m. only**

(no 10:30 a.m. service)

***A Journey of Peace***

(Luke 2:13-14; Isaiah 26:3; John 16:33)



**Come enjoy a movie matinee of**

# THE STAR

**THE STORY OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS**

**TODAY @ 1:00 p.m. at Main Street 7 Theatres**