

Look Back:

- What did you learn by seeking God's perspective on a situation or struggle that you are currently facing?

Look Up:**Read : Matthew 2:1-12**

- What details about Magi are included in these verses? How does this compare to how the Magi are portrayed during Christmas today?
- What drove the Magi to travel to Jerusalem? What were they seeking and what does this tell us about them?
- How was Herod's reaction different from the Magi? What do you think drove him to feel and act this way?
- Describe Matthew 2:10-11 in your own words. What do you think caused the Magi to feel and do the things they did? What do you think they saw that others did not see?

Read : Romans 5:1-8

- What specific reasons are given for "rejoicing" in verses 1 and 2? How is this different or similar to the Matthew passage?
- What additional reasons for rejoicing are given for rejoicing in verses 3 and 4? How easy or difficult is it for you to apply these verses in your life?
- What parts of verses 6-8 are particularly meaningful or significant to you? How have these truths made a difference in your life?
- What do these verses have to do with the Christmas story? How might you share this with someone who is struggling to find hope right now?

Overall (Discovery Bible Study)

- What do these scriptures say about God?
- What do they say about people?
- How will I apply this to my life?

Look Ahead:

Are you looking to Jesus for the hope you need? How might you change your focus if this is difficult to do right now?

Group Leader Note

The story of the Magi is filled with examples of incredible commitment, faith and hope. In contrast, we also see Herod and the people of Jerusalem, who are skeptical and threatened. The world today is in a similar state, with people divided and confused about what to believe and where to put their faith. Encourage group members to share their doubts and turn to scripture for answers.