



Matthew 2:11, 1 Kings 17

Cheat Codes - Dec 7th, 2025

Message Recap

God wants **something for you**, not **from you** - a better, fuller life shaped by better patterns. The Magi show us that wisdom doesn't stop at seeking or bowing; **wisdom brings**. What we bring to God reflects what we believe about God.

Scripture reveals a consistent pattern: **when God is first, blessing follows**. The widow in 1 Kings 17 experienced daily provision because she obeyed before she felt ready. David refused to give God what cost him nothing. Both reveal that trust unlocks what fear keeps closed.

Our Christmas Offering is not about money...it's about **alignment, obedience, and faith**. Wise people don't wait for the perfect moment; **they bring from what they have now**, trusting that God will bring what only He can.

Icebreaker / Personal Reflection

- **Icebreaker:**

What's your go-to Christmas movie?

- **Reflection:**

What part of the message resonated with you most?

Discussion Questions

- Pastor Byron shared, "What we bring shapes who we become." How have your patterns of giving, serving, or prioritizing God shaped your life, and what might God be inviting you to shift in this season?
- We often want God to change our circumstances, but He usually starts with our priorities. Where do you see a gap between the life you desire and the priorities you're currently living? What small step could begin to close that gap?
- The Magi's gifts represented honor, devotion, and sacrifice. If your "gift" to God right now reflected your life, which of those three would it resemble, and which one may God be nudging you toward?

- Fear shows up as either “I don’t have enough to obey” or “I don’t want to risk what I have.” Which fear do you relate to most, and how does it impact trust? What would wisdom look like in response to that fear?
- “Your life changes when your priorities change.” What is one priority shift that could bring more spiritual, emotional, or relational health into your life right now? What step can you take this week?

For Additional Study

Proverbs 11:24–25 (NIV)

“One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.”

Study Questions:

- What contrasts do you see between giving freely and withholding?
- How does this challenge our instincts about security and generosity?
- In what ways have you experienced “refreshing others” bringing refreshment into your own life?

Mark 12:41–44 (NIV) – The Widow’s Offering

Jesus honors a widow who gave two small coins because she gave in faith, not out of surplus.

Study Questions:

- Why did Jesus consider her small gift “more” than the others?
- What does this teach us about how God evaluates giving?
- What might it look like for you to give in a way shaped by faith rather than comfort?