

**Sermon Notes – “How Far Are You Willing To Go?”**  
**(January 2, 2022)**

**Sermon Texts:** Genesis 12:1-5, Matthew 2:1-12

**Memory Verse:** *“For to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord.”* **Luke 2:11**

**Introduction:** Abraham & Sarah, and the Magi as well, traveled great distances to obey their God. *How far are you willing to go to obey your God?*

**I. Abraham and Sarah** (Genesis 12:1-5)

- Received both a **command** and a **promise** from God.
- Command: **Leave** your country and **move** to the “land I will show you.” (vs. 1)
- Promise: You will be a **great nation**; the world will be **blessed** thru you. (vs. 2-3)
- **Distance:** over 500 miles from Haran to Canaan (all on foot!)

**II. The Magi** (Matthew 2:1-12)

- Most likely Zoroastrian priests from Persia (present day Iran)
- Discovered, obeyed a prophecy.
- Command: **Follow** the Star.
- Promise: You will **find the baby King of the Jews**.
- **Distance:** At least 1000 miles across the desert, 2000 via river valleys & coastline.

**III. How Far Will You Go to Worship the King?**

- **Faith** – *Are you willing to trust Jesus for your Salvation?*
- **Obedience** – *Will you learn/follow the teachings of Jesus?*
- **Witness** – *Are you willing to proclaim Jesus as your Lord in the Public Square?*

**Summary:** The Magi focused on **one thing**: Finding the Savior and worshiping Him. That’s how far they were willing to go to know and live the truth. *Are you willing to go that far?*

**Faith Challenge:** Identify 3 things you are willing to change this year in order to more closely conform your behavior to Jesus’ teachings

*“On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him.”* **Matthew 2:11**