



Still Room For Wonder Series

Small Group Material

Participant Guide

Part 1 - "Making Room"

November 26th, 2017

Bottom Line: *The human heart is searching for something worthy of its attention, affection and worship.*

Study Verses: *Matthew 2:1-12, Psalm 10:3-4, Psalm 46:10, Psalm 139:1-6, Psalm 9:1*

Key Points

- *Gratitude rises from stillness.*
- *Our circumstances can make us desperate, but our hearts can make us curious.*
- *If productivity becomes the marker of success and success is the goal, then the quicker we produce, the more success we enjoy.*
- *Efficiency has become the highest value in our culture.*
- *The heart can't help but express itself. What is formed on the inside gets expressed on the outside.*
- *Gratitude awakens wonder while entitlement drives us to prove our worth.*
- *Your sense of wonder is influenced by what you allow yourself to see.*
- *You never awaken wonder by looking inward.*
- *God is never in a hurry. Hurry is the enemy of spiritual formation.*
- *There is a big difference between what catches your attention and what captures the affection of your heart.*
- *Worship is the strategy by which we interrupt our preoccupation with ourselves and attend to the presence of God.*

ENCOUNTER

"I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought, and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder." GK Chesterton

- How are productivity and efficiency viewed in our culture? How do these traits lead one to be "successful" in life?
- When was the last time you stopped and were in awe of something? How did this experience fill your heart?
- Read the quote by GK Chesterton. Why is wonder required in order to express gratitude?
- Why are many of us reluctant to be still and wonder? What makes hurry the enemy of our spiritual formation?

FORMATION

- Read Matthew 2:1-12. What led the wise men to start out on their search? Why was their reaction to bring gifts and worship when they encountered baby Jesus?
- Read Psalm 10:3-4. What causes us to leave no room for God inside of our schedule? How does this influence and impact our heart?
- Read Psalm 46:10, Psalm 139:1-6 and Psalm 9:1. How does our willingness to be still lead us towards gratitude? In what ways does worship awaken wonder?

EXPRESSION

- Where have you lost your sense of wonder? What have you replaced it with?
- What are some steps you can take to develop a curious heart? How can you be intentional about slowing down and being still during the holiday season?
- The heart can't help but express itself. If this is true, how is your heart currently being expressed and how do you feel about this expression?