

## **Lectionary Bible Study**

### **For Sunday, January 5, 2025 (Feast of the Epiphany)**

#### **Isaiah 60:1-6**

*\*\*Recommend reading the whole chapter*

#### **Discussion Starters**

1. The reading begins with two commands: arise and shine. What does the prophet expect the people to do?
2. What is the "light" and "darkness" referred to in this text?
3. Reading verses 4-22 is like watching a parade. What do the people see, and what should that mean to them?
4. Why does God bestow all of this wealth on His people?

#### **Ephesians 3:1-12**

#### **Discussion Starters**

1. What is the mystery Paul talks about? Why was it a mystery?
2. What is Paul's role in this mystery? Where does the church fit into it?
3. How is this mystery applicable to us today?
4. Why does Paul refer to himself as the "least" of all God's people? Is he being hard on himself?

#### **Matthew 2:1-12**

#### **Discussion Starters**

1. Why was it important for Jesus to be born in Bethlehem?
2. What do the star, the Magi, their gifts, their worship, the hostility of Herod and role of prophecy tell you about the significance of Jesus?
3. What do we know about the Magi, based on this text?
4. Why did Herod want to know when Jesus was born? Why was his response to the birth announcement so much different than the response of the Magi?

#### **WRAP UP**

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?