



## **FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:**

1. If you were God, and you knew that creating the world would imply redeeming the world, would you do it? Why or why not?
2. How does it make you feel to realize that before Adam and Eve were created, God had set in motion His plan to redeem them (and us)?
3. What does God's sovereignty (the idea that He's in control) bring to mind? Is it a comforting thought or an unsettling one for you? Why?
4. Read Matthew 2:1-6. How would you describe the attitude of the Magi? (curious, searching, eager?) How would you describe the attitude of the chief priests and teachers of the law? (knowledgeable, informed, uninterested?) What does comparing the two say about God's desire to reach people, and about the people who would come to Him?
5. Why was Herod upset (v3)? Why was all Jerusalem upset with him? What did Herod ultimately do (v16)? What kingdoms in your life does Jesus threaten?
6. Why would God use astronomy to reach astronomers, when He told His own people not to engage in astronomy (Isaiah 47:13-15, Jeremiah 10:1-2)?
7. Think of one person you know who doesn't know the Lord personally. Is that person any less likely to come to Him than the Magi? How can you help? Will you commit to praying for that person daily throughout the Christmas season?