

Week 2: Yertle the Turtle

MATTHEW 2:1-12

- 1. Pastor Mark describes two different types or sources of power. One source is political power. In what ways is political power important and necessary?
- 2. In what ways can political power be abused or misused?
- 3. Why do you think political power can corrupt those who pursue it and use it?
- 4. Pastor Mark compares Yertle the Turtle with the Biblical character King Herod the Great. In what ways are these two characters similar?
- 5. Why did the Wise Men (Magi) first visit King Herod when they came to Judea?
- 6. Why was King Herod disturbed by the news that a new King had been born?
- 7. What kind of power does Jesus offer us, and how is it different from political power?
- 8. What are some ways we can deepen and strengthen the internal and spiritual power that Jesus offers us?
- 9. Psalm 146:3 states: "Do not put your trust in earthly Princes, in mere mortals who cannot save." In what ways are political leaders helpful, in what ways are they limited?
- 10. Pastor Mark tells the story of Barbara Bush, speaking to the graduating class of Wellesley College in 1990. In her speech, Barbara Bush said, "Our success as a society depends not on what happens in the White House, but on what happens inside your house." What do you think that means?
- 11. Pastor Mark says we must choose how we will evaluate our lives, either by the size of our throne or the size of our heart. What do you think that means?