

**The Sound of Christmas**  
 Wise About Worship  
 Craig Rees

1 Group title slide-1.jpg

**The Sound of Christmas**  
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2 title slide-1.jpg

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law,

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he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: " 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.

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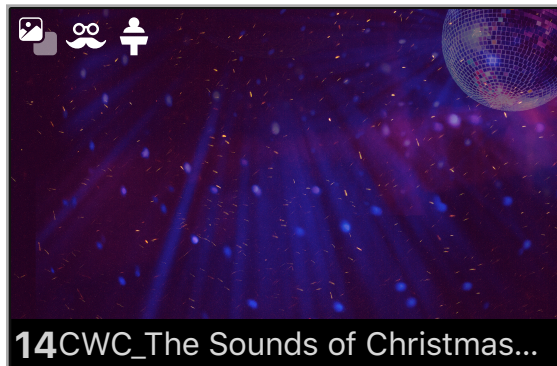
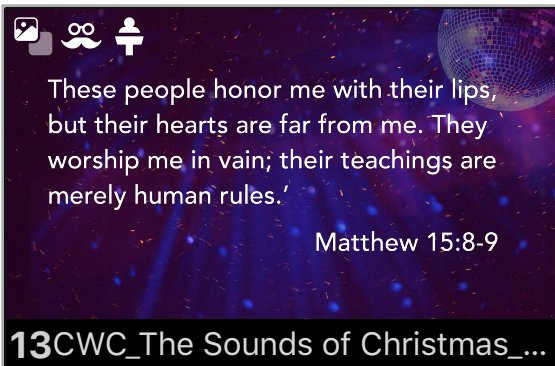
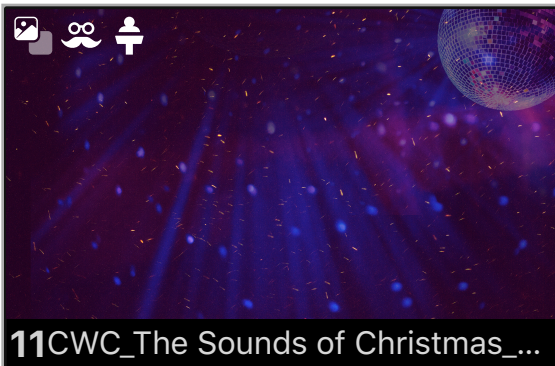
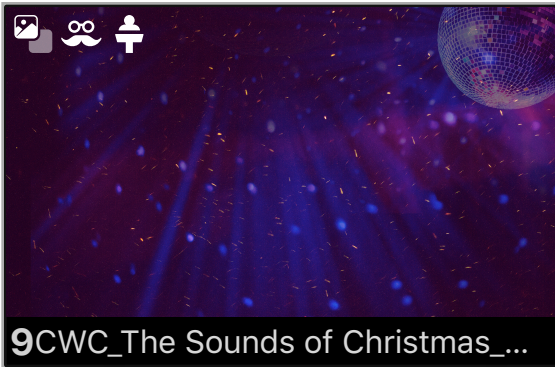
⚠ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

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⚠ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.




Matthew 2:1-12

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The Fruit of Inner Devotion

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The Fruit of Inner Devotion




- Inner devotion propels us beyond what is deemed appropriate (v1).

**16**CWC\_The Sounds of Christmas...

    
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- Inner devotion gives us the courage to stand firm in hostile environments (v3).

**17**CWC\_The Sounds of Christmas\_...

    
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The Fruit of Inner Devotion

- Inner devotion propels us beyond what is deemed appropriate (v1).
- Inner devotion gives us the courage to stand firm in hostile environments (v3).
- Inner devotion keeps us going when it would be easy to quit (v8).
- Inner devotion keeps us sensitive to the direction of the Holy Spirit (v12).

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Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Hebrews 13:15-16

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