

“They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” Matthew 2:11 NLT

## lectio // Matthew 2

How can you NOT love this story? It is filled with drama, mystery and intrigue. And, this idea of the Magi financing the young couple's ability to move and survive in Egypt, for THREE years is a miracle. And we're talking about 105+ mile journey to eventually return to Nazareth. So, I can't help but think of the Magi as being the "Delighted Donors." Look at the trouble they (rich members of one of Parthia's two ruling classes who were willing to travel over 1,000 miles to worship) went through to come and pay homage and give anywhere from \$4 million to possibly \$120 million (today's dollars). There are even some researchers that believe this money allowed Mary to raise a large family, after Joseph died, and finance Jesus' entire ministry for three years! So many times I forget that God supplies supernatural means to accomplish his plans. And these plans had been put into place thousands of years (really eternally) earlier. Lack of money is NOT the reason a good plan doesn't get fulfilled. We just have to make sure it's God's plan and not solely ours 😊.

## oratio

Dad,

Your will, your bill, right? I wonder how many amazing ideas have been unnecessarily frustrated by money. There are so many examples through history of your supernatural provision. I mean the whole book of Nehemiah is a miracle financed by a secular king. I guess the question is, "how do we know WHEN it's your plan and not just our own?" For the holy family the money came first. And Joseph only had to obey via dreams. How's it work today? I'm just curious.

## contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root