



Beyond Sunday

UpsideDown Kingdom — 1.11.2026

Outsiders Become Insiders — Mark Tumney

Gather

These questions help build connections with others as you share personal experiences.

1. When have you experienced being an "outsider" in a group, community, or church setting? What helped you feel welcomed—or what made it harder?

Grow

These questions guide your group through Scripture from Sunday's sermon.

Read Matthew 2:1–12

1. Who are the Magi, and why would their presence be surprising—or even shocking—to Matthew's original Jewish audience?
2. What stands out to you about how God chooses to reveal Jesus to the Magi?
3. The star prompts the Magi to seek, but Scripture leads them to Jesus. What does this teach us about the relationship between creation, Scripture, and knowing God?
4. Why do you think God used both a star and Scripture in this story?
5. How does this story challenge our assumptions about who is "in" and who is "out" in God's Kingdom?

Deuteronomy 18:9–12

1. How does this passage deepen our understanding of just how unexpected it is that the Magi are welcomed to worship Jesus?
2. What does the inclusion of the Magi reveal about the nature of God's Kingdom?

Give / Go

These questions help apply the sermon take-aways toward life change.

1. Thinking about the Magi and the Holy Family, what does "opening the door" to outsiders look like in today's church—or in your own life?
2. Is there a group of people you find uncomfortable to welcome into your life, small group, or church space? What might God be inviting you to trust Him with there?
3. What is one faithful step you can take this week to practice radical hospitality so someone might "see Jesus" through you?

Prayer

"Lord, make us a people who open the door wide. Help us to trust Your Spirit to do the work only You can do, and to joyfully welcome others into Your presence, just as You welcomed us. Amen."

Going Deeper

Optional resources for further exploration of this week's themes.

- Article: [**What is Biblical Hospitality?**](#)
 - <https://research.lifeway.com/2025/12/15/what-is-biblical-hospitality/>
- Video: [**Bible Project Matthew 1-3**](#)
 - <https://bibleproject.com/bible/niv/matthew/2/>
- Practice:
 - *Hospitality*—This week, intentionally invite someone new or overlooked into a meal, conversation, or church activity—without an agenda, simply to welcome them.