

Title: "Your Role Is to Be the Star"

- **God's Transforming Power:**
 - The star of Bethlehem in the Minster, made from a biscuit tin, symbolizes God's ability to transform the ordinary into something extraordinary.
 - If God can repurpose something as common as a star to guide people, He can transform us, who are wonderfully made, for His purpose.
- **The Role of the Star in the Magi's Journey:**
 - The star captures attention and points the Magi to Bethlehem, even when they initially go astray.
 - It remains constant, ultimately guiding them to the manger.
- **Our Role as Stars:**
 - Like the star, we are called to guide others toward Jesus through our lives.
 - This may involve encouraging faith, pursuing justice, or supporting others in difficult times.
- **Living as a Witness:**
 - Our lives should point to the joyful and loving reality of Christ, not to ourselves.
 - We must remain steadfast even when others seem uninterested or take time to notice.
- **Avoiding Misplaced Roles:**
 - We are not Jesus, the central figure who transforms everything.
 - We are not Herod, resisting change and clinging to control.
 - We are not the Magi, seeking truth at the edges, but rather the guiding light.
- **The Call to Shine:**
 - Our primary task is to let our lives shine with Christ's transformative power and humility.
 - Whether noticed or not, our responsibility is to ensure the light of Christ shines through our thoughts, words, and actions.

Questions:

1. **Reflecting Transformation:**

The sermon describes the star of Bethlehem as an example of God transforming the ordinary into something extraordinary. How does this reflect God's work in the lives of His people? Can you think of biblical examples or personal experiences where God transformed something ordinary into something profound?

2. **Being the Star:**

The star's role in guiding the Magi to Christ is compared to our role in pointing others to Jesus. What does it mean for you to "be the star" in your daily life? How can you ensure your actions and words consistently point to Jesus?

3. **Challenges of Shining the Light:**

How do we remain faithful in pointing to Jesus, even when it feels like no one is noticing? What encouragement does the Bible offer for such times?

4. **Avoiding Other Roles:**

The sermon mentions not taking on the roles of Jesus, Herod, or the Magi. What spiritual dangers might arise if we take on those roles instead of focusing on being the star? How can we stay grounded in our God-given purpose?

5. **The Magi's Journey:**

The Magi initially went to Jerusalem instead of Bethlehem. Why do you think they were drawn there, and what does this detour teach us about following God's guidance? How can we better discern and stay on God's path for our lives?

6. **Shining with Humility:**

The sermon highlights the humility of the manger as the center of the joyful, loving reality we point to. How does humility shape our witness as Christians? In what practical ways can we cultivate humility while reflecting Christ's light?