**HOPE!**

“Hope Confronts”

*“Do not place a foreigner over you, one who is not an Israelite”* (Deuteronomy 17:15b).

*“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’”* (Matthew 2:1-2).

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

* The original Christmas story is full of surprises, including the involvement of astrologers. What’s your most surprising Christmas memory?
* What does the involvement of astrologers say about the hope of Christmas?
* Read Matthew 2:1-12. Why did Herod respond the way he did to Jesus?
* How does the Christmas story expose us and our misplaced hopes?
* Do you have misplaced hopes that are keeping you from seeing the hope of Christ? If so, what are they?