Matt. 2:1-12 – WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM THE WISE MEN

What you expect determines how you ____________________.

I. BE ALERT TO WHAT GOD HAS FOR YOU (________________________ IT)
   Looking is different than ____________________________.

Matt. 13:14-17 – Christ quotes Isaiah about people who would hear but not understand, and see but never perceive (understand) because their hearts were calloused.
   If we don’t ______________________ our hearts, the news media; social media; all the junk assaulting our senses will make our hearts calloused.

“Lord, help me see what you have for me in the coming year.”

II. WE MUST __________________ WHAT WE ARE LEARNING FROM GOD.
Mark 2:14 – Jesus said to Levi – “follow Me”. And Levi got up and followed Him!
When Jesus says, “Follow Me” – follow Him!

III. v. 3-10 - DON’T QUIT: KEEP GOING WHEN IT’S __________________
   In v. 9 the grammar indicates that they lost the star for awhile. But they didn’t stop their journey – they ___________________________ toward the last direction they saw it, and they stopped to ask for help along the way.
   If you know enough to take the ______________ step, take the next step!!
   “Thy Word is a Lamp to my feet” – foot lamp – enough light for the next step!

IV. BE A WORSHIPPER – v. 11
   Gold – gifts given to a King
   Frankincense – offered up to God in the temple with their sacrifice
   Myrrh – used to prepare bodies for burial; and in anointing services
   Their giving started when they decided to follow the star. First we give ourselves to God – then what we have.

V. v. 12 – FOLLOW GOD’S LEADING - BE PREPARED TO CHANGE YOUR ________________________ – “a different way”
   God knows the changes He wants in your life, and He will __________________ you.
   Bottom line lesson from the Wise Men: commit to following Christ into the New Year, PERIOD.