

## Day 10: Sage stars

### Read

'Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'" Matthew 2.1-2 (ESV)

"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed." Daniel 7.13-14 (NIV)

### Reflect

The first mention of 'magi' or 'wise men' in the Bible appears way back in the book of Daniel 5.11, (perhaps under the guise of 'satraps' depending on your translation). They were the wisest in the land of Babylonia, the world power that gave us the basis of modern astronomy (and square roots in maths!). And yet, in the account of Daniel 2, they were flummoxed when asked to interpret the King's dream. It was only the God of Daniel, the Jewish exile, who could give an answer. Something of the God of Israel was known in the empire of Babylon. Daniel predicted a 'Son of Man' would come (a term Jesus uses to refer to himself in Matthew 8.20), and centuries later, magi in the same tradition as Daniel's contemporaries used their knowledge of the stars to come and look for him. Your challenge today is to look out!

### Challenge 1

Let someone out before you when driving (in accordance with the Highway Code)

### Challenge 2

Look out for opportunities to encourage and praise people today – and do it!

### Challenge 3

Pay for the coffee of the person behind you in the queue