**The People who Kneel – Matthew 2:1-12 Leader Notes**

**HOOK**

1. Tell the story of how you proposed (if you’re married).

2. When’s the last time you knelt? Why did you kneel?

3. What’s the significance of kneeling? Is kneeling common in contemporary Canadian culture?

**BOOK**
4. Read Matthew 2:1-12. Why did the magi kneel before Jesus? What gifts did they bring Jesus and his family? (Gold, frankincense, and myrrh.) What was the significance of those gifts? (they were all gifts for a king).

5. What gift might you have brought Jesus that would have been more practical?

6. Read Matthew 15:21-28. Why did the Canaanite woman kneel before Jesus? (Her daughter was suffering and she asked Jesus to heal her.)

7. For what divine purposes might Jesus have remained silent? (To test her faith and invite her to grow).

8. Read Mark 5:1-20. Why did the demon possessed man kneel before Jesus? (Submission of demons to a higher authority).

9. How is the demon possessed man changed by the command of Jesus? (He is set free and became a persuasive witness for Jesus).

**LOOK**
10. What do the 3 people who knelt before Jesus have in common? (they were all Gentiles, people far from God.).

11. Does God speak to unbelievers as well as believers? (yes). This is the scandalous kindness of God – He speaks to everyone, not based on performance.

12. How does Phil. 2:9-11 give us a picture of who will kneel in the future?

**TOOK**

13. How would you like to grow in seeking Jesus? What area of your life still needs to kneel before Jesus?

14. Has God been speaking to you about something in particular, or silent despite your fervent prayers?