

THE STAR! (WEEK 2)

Scripture used: [Matthew 2:3-8 \(NLT\)](#)

OVERVIEW

Welcome to the second week of our series entitled “The Star!” where Pastor Hurmon draws on insights from [the new movie with the same name](https://www.fandango.com/the-star-2017-203768/movie-overview) (<https://www.fandango.com/the-star-2017-203768/movie-overview>). The theme of the series is that anyone can be a star to others, directing them to the true meaning and spirit of Christmas. In this particular sermon, Pastor Hurmon showed us how hidden insecurities threaten our relationship with God, and also our relationships with those around us. By hiding our insecurities, we hurt ourselves, hurt others, and cut ourselves off from the larger story of God redeeming the world!

KEY POINTS

- 1) **Everyone has hidden insecurities.** It’s easy to believe that the youngest, poorest, and weakest people have insecurities. But it’s actually true of everyone. Insecurities are a byproduct of the world’s sin nature. They are simply a part of our brokenness.
 - a. **The greater our worldly success, the greater our hidden insecurities.** King Herod is a perfect example of this. No matter how much he completed great building projects and consolidated his power, he always felt like an outsider. In fact, the more he did, the worse his insecurities became!
 - b. **There are many kinds of hidden insecurities.** You may feel like an Imposter who will be caught and exposed as a fraud. Many great creators such as Maya Angelou lived in fear of being “found out.” Or you may be a Perfectionist, never satisfied unless something is 100% right. Other people are too worried about how they’re perceived. They create a public image as a Genius, or a larger-than-life Superhero.
- 2) **Our hidden insecurities impact others.** We often wound other people because of our internal fears, doubts, and anxieties. Like King Herod, we will be both jealous and suspicious. Even worse, these insecurities cause us to try to control events in impossible ways. That’s why King Herod held private meetings with religious scholars and experts: to discover more information about Jesus. He wanted to kill Jesus because he viewed our Savior as a threat to his status as king!
- 3) **There is no quick fix for insecurities.** This is a broken world. No one can permanently move beyond insecurities, but that isn’t the end of the story. We can still live victoriously!
- 4) **Embracing our insecurities creates room for God.** Keeping ourselves small and being honest with our insecurities is the best way to ensure there is room for God. Bethel was not a major city, which explains why the leading priests referenced the prophecy in [Micah Chapter 5, Verse 2](#), pointing to the Bethel located in Judah. It was easy to overlook, yet this small town would be the birthplace of the King of the World!
 - a. **God chooses the small and humble to demonstrate His glory.** Pastor Hurmon’s favorite scripture in the entire Bible is [1 Corinthians Chapter 1, Verses 26-29](#). God selects the “foolish”, the “powerless”, and the “despised” to use as His instruments.
 - b. **We can’t be big and still need Jesus.** If we see ourselves as big, then there is no room for God. We can develop excellence and do wonderful things, of course, but our security can never rest in these things. It must rest in the eternal Christ, our Lord & Savior!

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** – No matter how successful a person appears to be, he or she suffers from hidden insecurities. What are some obvious examples that come to mind? How does it make you feel to know that everyone else is wounded in the same way as you (e.g. hopeful, sad, confused, satisfied)? Why?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** – Pastor Hurmon wants each of us to affirm “I will trust Jesus by embracing my insecurity!” That means taking a hard look at ourselves and identifying some of those hidden insecurities. Then ask God to reveal how He might use these so-called “weaknesses” as a part of His larger story of the world’s redemption. Brainstorm ideas with others, inviting them into your world.
- 3) **DO** – Help be a star in the lives of others. Point them toward Jesus! Invite friends and family to one of our Christmas services: the 5:00 PM or 7:00 PM Candlelight Worship Gathering on Saturday the 23rd, or the 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM, or 12:00 PM gatherings on Sunday the 24th. You can easily send them the link to [the NBCC Christmas page](https://www.nbccbayarea.com/christmas) (<https://www.nbccbayarea.com/christmas>) with all the details.