

Applying God's Word

This Week's Passage: Matthew 2:13-23

Corresponding Sermon from King's Church: "Jesus: The Hope Of A New Exodus"

Opening Discussion

1. Read this week's passage together.
2. Share *your* immediate observations from this text. Was there anything shared in Sunday's sermon that stuck out to *you*?
3. In what ways were you able to see *yourself* in the sermon and in the text?

Going Deeper

1. In the book of Revelation John is given a series of visions depicting the trouble of this world and Christ's ultimate victory. Then in **Revelation 12:1-6** we get a cosmic view of the root of the conflict, Satan's attempt to destroy Jesus. After reading this passage together, discuss how this deepens your understanding of what God was doing in preserving the life of Jesus in Matthew 2:13-23. What does this say about the origin and continuation of evil in our world.
2. The Lord protected the life of Jesus from those seeking to kill him so that he could accomplish his mission. Look up **Isaiah 14:27** together. Discuss some of the many examples in scripture of man or Satan seeking to thwart God's plan, and the way God sovereignly works to bring it to pass.
3. How have you seen the Lord work in the details of your life, both good and bad, to bring about his good purposes?

4. In **Matthew 2:13-15**, Matthew alludes back to the Exodus story. In so doing, he likens Jesus to both Israel and Moses. Discuss together how he is a new and better Israel? How is he a new and better Moses? What hope does that give you?

5. As you consider how Jesus has come to deliver his people from their sins through his sacrificial death, think about the way he has done so for you? How is he still doing that today? Are there ways that you still seek to be shackled to the sins that once bound you?

6. Consider how Matthew has used the Old Testament so far in his gospel account. What does this tell you about how he viewed the Old Testament? How should this change your view of it?

Prayer Points

1. Give the Lord thanks for his gracious faithfulness to restore us to himself.
2. Ask the Lord to help you look to Christ's suffering for you as the source of hope as you endure suffering in this life.