



STUDY QUESTIONS FOR **JANUARY 4**

Series: *God Fulfills His Promises*

Promised Protection (Matthew 2:13-23)

Icebreakers!

1. Share three great things from 2025 to thank God for!
2. If you're open to sharing, what's a hard thing you're carrying from last year into this one?

Digging Deeper

3. **Study Matthew 2:13-23 on the back of this page.** How does Matthew set this passage apart in three sections? How does this explain why *Jesus of Nazareth* can still be the promised Son of David?
4. **Read Hosea 11:1.** How did God "call" Israel out of Egypt? Why does God refer to Israel as His son? How did God show His love for Israel when they were a "child"?
5. **Read Psalm 2:1-6.** How does Herod fulfill the role of the kings of the earth? How does God respond to such rebellion?
6. **Read Exodus 1:8-16.** Why did Pharaoh order that the Hebrew babies be killed? How did God deliver His people: both in that chapter, and later in Exodus?
7. **Read Jeremiah 31:15.** Who was Rachel (Genesis 29)? What does it mean that Rachel wept for her children ... more than 1000 years later, in Jeremiah's day?
8. **Read Jeremiah 40:1-3.** How did Jeremiah arrive in Ramah? Why did this disaster come upon God's people? How would our godly ancestors see our sin—and our punishment?
9. **Read Isaiah 11:1.** How much honor is there in a shoot sprouting out of a stump, compared to a full-grown tree? Yet how is this shoot honored in God's sight?
10. What did you hear in the message this Sunday that stood out to you?
Is there anything you would emphasize, add, or change?

Application

11. How does trusting that Jesus understands us and sympathizes with our weakness affect our daily life with Him?
12. Who do you know that struggles with trusting God because of tragedies or burdens? Lift them up in prayer. Ask God to show you how to support their faith in Him.

MATTHEW 2:13-23

Now when they had departed,
behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,

“Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt,
and remain there until I tell you,
for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.”

And he rose and took the child and his mother by night
and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod.

This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet,

“Out of Egypt I called my son.”

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men,
became furious,
and he sent and killed all the male children
in Bethlehem and in all that region
who were two years old or under,
according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

“A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

But when Herod died,
behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying,

“Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel,
for those who sought the child’s life are dead.”

And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.

But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea
in place of his father Herod,
he was afraid to go there,
and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee.

And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth,
so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled,
that he would be called a Nazarene.