

Life Group Bible Study

The Other King
January 2-3, 2021
Matthew 2:13-23



Opening

Do you truly believe that God loves you and wants the best for you? Are you able to relax and be confident that His purposes are right for you?

Dig Deeper into the Word

1. Read Matthew 2:13-23

¹³ After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother,” the angel said. “Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” ¹⁴ That night Joseph left for Egypt with the child and Mary, his mother, ¹⁵ and they stayed there until Herod’s death. This fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: “I called my Son out of Egypt.” ¹⁶ Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him. He sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, based on the wise men’s report of the star’s first appearance. ¹⁷ Herod’s brutal action fulfilled what God had spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸ “A cry was heard in Ramah— weeping and great mourning. Rachel weeps for her children, refusing to be comforted, for they are dead.” ¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. ²⁰ “Get up!” the angel said. “Take the child and his mother back to the land of Israel, because those who were trying to kill the child are dead.” ²¹ So Joseph got up and returned to the land of Israel with Jesus and his mother. ²² But when he learned that the new ruler of Judea was Herod’s son Archelaus, he was afraid to go there. Then, after being warned in a dream, he left for the region of Galilee. ²³ So the family went and lived in a town called Nazareth. This fulfilled what the prophets had said: “He will be called a Nazarene.”

2. According to dictionary.com, “king” is a sovereign male who holds chief authority over a country and people. Who or what is king of your life? Are there areas of our lives that we are reluctant to allow Christ to be King of?

3. In Matthew 2:16 we read that Herod was furious when the wise men did not return. Why was Herod so upset about a simple baby? What part of Jesus’ purpose was Herod missing?

4. In Isaiah 9:6 and Jeremiah 23:5-6 we hear what type of king God intended Jesus to be. How does this contrast from the type of king Herod was? Or, even what type of King Herod thought Jesus would be?

5. Why did Jesus come to earth? Why would He leave heaven to walk among us? (Isaiah 63:8-9 and Micah 5:4-5a)

6. How does Christ's example help us understand what type of leader we should be? What steps can we all take to be a more Christ like leader...in our homes? In our relationships? At work? In our neighborhoods? At Olivet?

7. When we look at John 14:27 we see an example of one of the many gifts/ blessings we receive by walking with Christ as the King of our life. What are some other gifts or blessings that we can share with one another to help encourage those that have difficulty walking with Christ as their King?

Prayer

Please take time to pray for each other and this congregation. Pray for our Call Committee and the Pastor that God has already set aside for us. Pray that we would be a people that are seeking God's will in all things and that we may be united around His Word, allowing Him to be King of our lives.