

LIFE GROUPS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do you like most and least about your hometown? Why is it so difficult to move to a new city?
2. **Read Matthew 2:19-20.** Where were Joseph, Mary, and Jesus at the time? What did the angel tell Joseph to do? Why did the angel give this command?
3. How would you describe Joseph and Mary's current circumstances? Compare Joseph's need to discern and obey God's will to our need to discern and obey.
4. **Read Matthew 2:21-22a.** How did Joseph respond to the angel's instructions? Why was Joseph afraid to return to Judea?
5. Why does God seem to always allow difficult people to be in your life?
6. **Read Matthew 2:22b-23.** Why was it significant that Jesus' family settled in Nazareth? **Read John 1:45-46.** How can you embrace God's plan for your life even when it doesn't match the status quo or cultural expectations?
7. What modern-day forces threaten the family?
8. How has your hometown influenced who you are? Why might God lead you to live in a certain area?
9. As you look back over your life and see how God has guided you, how can you show the Lord your appreciation this Christmas?



The Return

Matthew 2:19-23

December 19, 2021

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10. **Read Isaiah 53:1-3.** For what purpose was Jesus born as a baby to poor parents from an insignificant place? Why did he endure the pain, rejection, and suffering?

