

Christmas Stories: The Escape
Matthew 2:13-18

Life Group Discussion Questions:

1. What was your most frightening brush with death? Why does the death of a child seem especially tragic?
2. **Read Matthew 2:13 and Psalms 2:1-4.** Where did the angel tell Joseph to go? Why? Why is it important to obey God immediately?
3. What happens when people try to thwart God's plan? How are our lives impacted by God's ability and commitment to carry out his plan?
4. **Read Matthew 2:14-15 and Hosea 11:1.** Why was the escape to Egypt significant in the life of Christ? Why is it noteworthy that the infant nation of Israel and the infant Jesus were both led from Egypt by God?
5. **Read Matthew 2:16.** What was King Herod's emotional state when he realized the Magi had tricked him? What are some wise ways to handle anger?
6. **Read Matthew 2:17-18.** Who prophesied the horrible episode of infanticide in Bethlehem?
7. How can Christians serve those who are affected by senseless violence? What action could you take to minister to someone who is in mourning?
8. How can you be more sensitive to God's leading you when faced with difficult circumstances?
9. In what area of your life do you need to trust God more instead of being driven by competition?