

## King and Messiah Week 4

### Read Matthew 2:13-23

Why do you think God chose to have Joseph flee instead of providing supernatural protection for the family?

What do the following verses teach you about the Christian life and persecution? (Matthew 5:10-12, John 15:18-20, 2 Timothy 3:12, 1 Peter 4:12-14, 16)

Matthew 2:15 quotes Hosea 11:1. What is Matthew trying to tell us about Jesus using this verse?

What parallels do you see between the people of Israel's deliverance from Egypt and the salvation we have in Christ?

**Read Romans 8.** In what ways does this chapter give comfort to Christians enduring persecution?

Matthew 2:23 does not quote a specific OT passage, but references the prophets' general depiction of the Messiah to come. What does it mean that Jesus would be called a Nazarene and how is that significant?

Give several examples of people rejecting Jesus in Scripture.

How do we reject him today?

Matthew was building bridges to his audience by using the three Old Testament references. How can we build bridges to people around us today so that we can help them see Jesus as King and Messiah?

**APPLICATION:** In the midst of giving thanks this week, remember to pray for the Christ followers around the world who are persecuted for their faith.

**Other observations/questions:**