**Life Group Discussion Guide**

Matthew: The King and His Kingdom

*The King is on the Run!*

October 3, 2021

**Reading** Matthew 2:13-23

**Intro:**

1. What is the worst weather you have been in? Your own mini “perfect storm”? And what were the results?

2. Have you had a personal “perfect storm” where everything that could have gone wrong went wrong? How did you make it through? Share with your group if you feel comfortable.

3. Does looking to the future make you apprehensive? Why or why not?

**Read Matt 2:13-15. Pray and answer the following questions**:

1. How did God communicate his will to Joseph? According to the text (vs14) how did Joseph respond? What does this show about him?

2. Look up Hosea 11 and read the chapter. What prophecy did this journey in Matthew fulfill? What can we learn from this about God and his work? What can we learn about Jesus?

3. Why did Matthew emphasize Old Testament prophecy? How does this add to his message?

**Read Matt 2:16-18**

4. What was ironic about Herod plot? (Look at end of vs4 for help)

5. Why was Herod trying to keep the promised messiah from fulfilling prophecy?

6. Where is the quote from vs18 found in scripture? What is the chapter that this quoted verse is found describing?

7. In what way was this Old Testament passage “fulfilled”?

8. What happens when people try to thwart God’s plan?

**Read Matt 2:19-23**

9. Where did Joseph end up taking his family? Why?

10. During chaos and threatening evil, what can we learn about God from this passage?

11. What is the significance of Jesus being called a Nazarene? (Look up John 1:46, 7:52, and Isaiah 53:3)

12. What is a way that God has intervened or interfered in your life? What is a time when you can remember him providing for you? Go around in a circle and everyone share a “replay of God’s past interference”.

13. What is the effect of hearing these stories? How does it affect your view of God and the future? Will you commit to replaying this story with someone else this week?