



Advent || Week 4 || December 20, 2020 || Discussion Guide

Read **Matthew 2:13-23** and answer the following.

In your own words, briefly summarize the events of this passage. What most stands out to you and why?

List the words and phrases that are repeated in this passage. What do you think their repetition intends to communicate?

How do you see God the Father actively involved in preserving and protecting God the Son? Give some examples. Why is this significant?

Verse 18 is quoted from **Jeremiah 31:15**. Read **Jeremiah 31:15-17; 31-34**. What is the context of this prophecy? Despite the promised hardship of exile, the prophet also gives reasons for hope. What reasons does he provide?

Jesus growing up in a Nazareth fulfilled several prophecies about how the Savior would be treated and perceived. One of those prophecies comes from Isaiah. Read **Isaiah 53:2-3** and then **John 1:46**. How does Jesus coming from this small, despised town fulfill Isaiah's prophecy? Beyond the fulfillment of Scripture, why else do you think Jesus' obscure upbringing was of importance? Explain.

How does Joseph serve as an example faithful obedience?

Advent is a time of faith, hope, peace, and love. Which do you see as a prevailing theme in this story? Which do you personally most long for the Lord to provide in this season and why?

How does this passage of Scripture most comfort and/or convict you personally?