



March 16, 2014 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

PART 10: **SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENTS**

Matthew 2:13-18

Matthew 2:13-18 (ESV)

The Flight to Egypt

¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴ And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

Herod Kills the Children

¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted,
because they are no more."

1:10 COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK



Open Your Group in Prayer.

Use this as a guide, you don't have to answer every question in your group.

To understand the backstory of this study, take some time this week to read Genesis 37 through Genesis 50.

1. Have you ever had to deal with a boss who seemed unreasonable at work? Did you grow up in a family where some of the expectations on you were unreasonable? How did you respond

Read Exodus 1:1-14.

2. Verse 8 mentions a new king in Egypt "who did not know Joseph." If you know the backstory of this passage from the end of Genesis, discuss in your group why this detail matters. You can find these details in Gen. 37-50.
3. Why was this king so afraid of the Israelites? From what you know, did he have reason to be afraid? What does this tell you about this new king?
4. Look at verse 11. What did the king (Pharaoh) do?
5. Did his plan work? (v. 12)
6. How did Pharaoh and the Egyptians respond?

Read Exodus 1:15-22.

7. What is Pharaoh's next move? How does this compare to King Herod in Matthew 2:13-18?
8. What else do you notice or what else stands out to you in verses 15-22?
9. Do you notice a pattern in Pharaoh's attacks?

Read Exodus 2:1-10.

10. Recap this account in your group. What do you notice? What stands out? How is it similar to Matthew 2:13-18?

Read Exodus 2:11-15.

11. After Moses grows up in Pharaoh's house, what happens?

Read Exodus 2:23-25.

12. If you could talk to some of the Israelites and ask them where they think God was in the middle of their suffering, what responses do you think you'd get?
13. If you were in their spot, what would you say?
14. Later, God would use Moses to rescue his people from their taskmaster. We also have a taskmaster in Satan who abuses us and is harsh with us and burdens us with sin. But like the people of Israel, God hears our cries for help and sends a deliverer in Jesus (a greater Moses) to lead us to freedom. How does the rest of the story of Moses point forward to our redemption in Jesus?

6:7 family questions

Read Matthew 2:13-18

Why did Herod want to destroy Jesus?

How did God protect Jesus?

What may have happened if Joseph hadn't obeyed the angel's message?

This story reminds us that God is in control (or *sovereign*). He provides for us and protects us, just like he did with Jesus. But sometimes he protects us through our obedience to him.

Discuss some of God's commands that are for your own good and protection (the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:3-17 is a good place to start).

What may happen if we don't obey those commands?

Pray together as a family, thanking God that he protected Jesus and that he protects you. Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you his word and help you obey him.

These simple questions are designed to help you live out the command in Deuteronomy 6:7 to teach our kids and make God's Word a natural topic of conversation in our homes. Use them at the dinner table, in the car, or whenever you find your family together with a few moments to spare.

PRAYER GUIDE

WEEK OF MARCH 23, 2014

During your prayer time this week, let's all be praying together about the following items.

Use the space at the bottom to record your personal prayer items, or requests from your 1:10 Group.

NOTE: Due to the sensitive nature of some items on the Prayer Guide, we do not publish it online. Email the church office to sign up for the email prayer list: office@wawaseebible.com