

Out of Bethlehem

Sunday, December 28, 2025

1. _____ places.

"After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother," the angel said. "Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."¹⁴ That night Joseph left for Egypt with the child and Mary, his mother,¹⁵ and they stayed there until Herod's death. This fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: "I called my Son out of Egypt."

Matthew 2:13-15 (NLT)

"God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers.¹² Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way."

Matthew 5:11-12 (NLT)

* Where do I need to see resistance as a _____?

2. _____ places.

"His parents didn't know what to think. "Son," his mother said to him, "why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you everywhere."⁴⁹ "But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?"⁵⁰ But they didn't understand what he meant.⁵¹ Then he returned to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. And his mother stored all these things in her heart."

Luke 2:48-51 (NLT)

"Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit."

Hebrews 13:17 (NLT)

"Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God."

Romans 13:1 (NLT)

* Where do I need to be _____?

3. _____ places.

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free,¹⁹ and that the time of the LORD's favor has come."²⁰ He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently.²¹ Then he began to speak to them. "The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!"

Luke 4:18-21 (NLT)

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

* Where do I need to step out in _____?

4. _____ places.

"...Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them.⁴³ But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant,⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else.⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Mark 10:42-45 (NLT)

* Who/where should I be _____?

5. Places of _____.

"...My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."³⁹ He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, "My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine."

Matthew 26:38-39 (NLT)

"My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Galatians 2:20 (NLT)

* What do I need to _____?