



## ADVENT WEEK 5 DEVOTIONAL

### THE COST OF CHRISTMAS

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#### RECEIVE

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Slowly. Prayerfully, read out loud **Matthew 2:13–21**. Before and after each reading, pause for a moment of silence. In that silence pray asking the Spirit of Christ to guide you into knowing and living what you are receiving from the Scripture. Consider, what does God want you to reflect on and learn?

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#### REFLECT

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1. What did Christmas cost you this year?
2. What did worshiping Jesus and caring for His interests above Herod's cost the Magi?
3. What did putting Jesus first cost Mary and Joseph?
4. In the midst of the turmoil, how did God provide and care for Jesus, Mary and Joseph? See Matthew 2:11.
5. The statement, "was fulfilled" occurs three times in this passage. Why is this significant?
6. How can what you discover in questions four and five help you face turmoil in your life?

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## RESPOND

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The ultimate cost of Christmas is Jesus giving His life for us. One of the best ways we honor that cost is giving our lives to Him. With that in mind, download the Spiritual Health Assessment and allow it to help you offer more of your life to Jesus in 2024. If you would like a list of additional resources or would like to talk through your results with someone contact Pastor Eric Haskins at [ehaskins@ChristChurch.us](mailto:ehaskins@ChristChurch.us).

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## SCRIPTURE

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**Matthew 2:13–21** | New International Version

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the Child and His mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the Child to kill Him.”

So he got up, took the Child and His mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called My Son.”

When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

“A voice is heard in Ramah,  
weeping and great mourning,  
Rachel weeping for her children  
and refusing to be comforted,  
because they are no more.”

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the Child and His mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the Child’s life are dead.” So he got up, took the Child and His mother and went to the land of Israel.

CHRIST CHURCH 

501 Oak Brook Rd. | Oak Brook, IL 60523 | 630.654.1882 | [ChristChurch.us](http://ChristChurch.us)