THE CAST OF CHRISTMAS

Villain - Matthew 2:1-19
Pastor Miles McPherson – December 18, 2011

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1. The evil plans of evil men are _____by the loving plans of a loving God. *Matthew 2:3*

2. The evil plans of evil men are _____ against the loving plans of a loving God. *Matthew 2:1-19*

3. The evil plans of evil men are _____compared to the loving plans of a loving God. *Matthew 2:1-19*

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Answer these questions and discuss in your group this week:

1. Compare Matthew 2:1-19 with Exodus 1:15-22 as a group. Discuss the similarities of the stories and list them. Also compare the outcomes of each of these stories. What are the similarities in their experiences?

2. Herod's terror, though very real and painful in the flesh, is very small in the view of a holy and sovereign God. Have you experienced terrors in your own life that, in retrospect, God has brought about for his glory? Explain.

3. It appears that God's purposes for his Son were immeasurable compared to the death that Herod tried to place upon Him. The purposes for this are found throughout the entire Bible. Read Romans 8:28-30 and discuss how this basic story of persecution of the young children Jesus' age actually allowed God's greater purposes to be fulfilled?

DON'T HAVE A GROUP? FIND ONE AT SDROCK.COM/SMALLGROUPS

READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR.

Don't forget to Read, Reflect and Respond.

MON - Ezekiel 18-19; James 4
TUES - Ezekiel 20-21; James 5
WED - Ezekiel 22-23; 1 Peter 1
THU - Ezekiel 24-26; 1 Peter 2
FRI - Ezekiel 27-29; 1 Peter 3
SAT - Ezekiel 30-32; 1 Peter 4
SUN - Ezekiel 33-34; 1 Peter 5