

CHANGE

THEY TURNED THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN.

WHO CAN I RUN TO? 6-Day Devotional Guide

DAY 1 — God Makes A Way

Scripture: Matthew 2:13–14

One of the most comforting truths in Scripture is that God does not abandon His people when danger shows up. He orchestrates escapes. That means before the threat becomes visible to us, God is already designing a route of protection we cannot yet see. Joseph did not wake up that night because circumstances demanded it. He woke up because God revealed what was coming.

Many of us equate God's faithfulness with the absence of trouble. But Scripture consistently shows that God's protection often looks like direction rather than elimination. God did not remove Herod. He revealed Egypt. And that distinction matters because it teaches us how God works in real life. When we feel trapped or confined, our instinct is to look for immediate relief. We want the pressure gone. We want the discomfort removed. But God's priority is not always our comfort. His priority is our calling.

When Joseph obeyed God's instruction, he walked away from a situation that could have destroyed his family. Other people may have stayed and hoped for the best. Others may have tried to negotiate danger. But Joseph trusted that God had already made a way out.

Escapes require revelation. Without revelation, we attempt to manufacture relief. That is where escapism is born. Escapism feels like freedom in the moment, but it always leads to settling. God's way out is rarely the fastest route, but it is always the safest one.

Prayer: God, help me trust that You are already working on my behalf even when I cannot see the way forward. Teach me to wait for Your direction instead of creating my own escape.

DAY 2 — Get Up

Scripture: Matthew 2:13

God's instruction to Joseph began with two urgent words. Get up. That command reveals something important about divine timing. God did not tell Joseph to move eventually. He told him to move immediately. Some moments require instant obedience because the threat is closer than we realize.

We often delay obedience because we underestimate danger. If we cannot see it, we assume it is not near. But God sees what we cannot. He knows conversations we have not heard, decisions we are unaware of, and intentions forming behind the scenes. Joseph knew his plans. God knew Herod's.

Delayed obedience is still disobedience when urgency is involved. Some escapes fail not because people refuse to obey, but because they obey too late. God's protection is sometimes proactive, but it still requires responsiveness.

Joseph's sleep represented comfort. God disrupted his comfort to preserve his calling. There are seasons when staying comfortable keeps us vulnerable. Deliverance sometimes requires disruption.

Sensitivity to God's timing is just as important as clarity of God's direction. When God says move, hesitation can cost what He is trying to protect.

Prayer: God, sharpen my awareness of Your timing. Help me respond quickly when You prompt me to move, even when it disrupts my comfort.

DAY 3 — Handling The Herod In Me

Scripture: Matthew 2:3

Herod's desire to kill Jesus was not driven by threat but by insecurity. Jesus was not coming for Herod's throne, yet Herod reacted as if his power was in danger. Insecurity has a way of assuming competition where none exists.

This passage challenges us to examine not only how we deal with hostile people, but how we manage our own ambition and fear. Unbridled ambition without spiritual formation produces casualties. When ambition outruns maturity, people get hurt.

Herod ruled externally but was unstable internally. No throne can heal insecurity. If we are not careful, fear can distort our perception and turn protective instincts into destructive behavior.

Before asking God to deal with the Herods around us, we must ask Him to heal the Herod within us. Spiritual maturity allows us to discern real threats from imagined ones and respond with wisdom rather than fear.

Prayer: God, reveal any insecurity or unchecked ambition in my heart. Form my character so I do not harm what You are trying to grow in me or others.

DAY 4 — Wise Withdrawal

Scripture: Matthew 2:14

Joseph did not confront Herod. He did not argue with the system. He withdrew. Wise Withdrawal is choosing to create intentional distance from chaos so you can hear God clearly and move wisely. It is not avoidance or fear. It is holy restraint that produces biblical boundaries.

Drama demands reaction. God invites restraint. When life gets loud, we often look for relief instead of wisdom. We feel pressure to respond quickly, speak immediately, or engage emotionally. But clarity requires distance.

Joseph denied drama access to his family by creating distance. Drama feeds on access. When access is denied, influence is limited. Wise Withdrawal is restraint with purpose. It is choosing not to respond, not to engage, and not to stay entangled in chaos that threatens clarity.

God did not stop the danger immediately. He repositioned Joseph beyond its reach. That is Egypt. A place where chaos loses proximity and power.

Prayer: God, show me where Wise Withdrawal is necessary in my life. Teach me when to step back so I can hear You clearly and move wisely.

DAY 5 — Prophetic Lament

Scripture: Psalm 13

Joseph likely carried deep disappointment. The king meant to protect the people became the source of threat. When systems fail, disappointment can become chronic. Chronic disappointment often leads to despair.

Prophetic lament gives us a way to process pain without abandoning faith. It is Spirit guided, truth centered expression of grief, loss, and confusion in the presence of God. Lament allows us to speak honestly without becoming hardened.

Disappointment does not have to be a dead end. It can be a doorway to deeper dependence. The Psalms teach us that God welcomes honest pain. Lament keeps disappointment from turning into bitterness.

When we refuse to lament, we numb pain or suppress it. When we lament, we heal.

Prayer: God, help me bring my disappointment to You honestly. Give me language for my pain that keeps me connected to You.

DAY 6 — Sacred Yielding

Scripture: Proverbs 3:5-6

Joseph expected to go home. Nazareth was the plan. Instead, God sent him somewhere unfamiliar. Disruption often feels unfair, especially when it is not our fault. It feels like delay, detour, and loss.

Sacred Yielding is releasing control without carrying resentment. It is trusting God's direction when plans are interrupted. Joseph did not argue or negotiate. He yielded.

God sometimes disrupts our plans because our plans cannot sustain our purpose. Sacred Yielding allows God to reorder our steps even when we do not understand the route.

Yielding does not mean giving up. It means trusting God with what we cannot control.

Prayer: God, help me release control without resentment. Teach me to trust You when the path forward does not make sense.
