fills my life.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. Matthew 2:10 (NASB) $\,$

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. Luke 2:20 (NIV)

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God...Luke 2:28a (NIV)

Coming up to them at that very moment, she (Anna) gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. Luke 2:38 (NIV)

But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart. Luke 2:19 (NASB)

Then the LORD God formed [that is, created the body of man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being [an individual complete in body and spirit. Genesis 2:7 (AMP)

Let this be recorded for future generations, so that a people not yet born will praise the LORD. ¹⁹ Tell them the LORD looked down from his heavenly sanctuary. He looked down to earth from heaven ²⁰to hear the groans of the prisoners, to release those condemned to die. Psalm 102:18-20 (NLT)

And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7 (NASB)

And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed His last. And the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion, who was standing right in front of Him, saw the way He breathed His last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" Mark 15:37-39 (NASB)

In the same way the Spirit [comes to us and] helps us in our weakness. We do not know what prayer to offer or how to offer it as we should, but the Spirit Himself [knows our need and at the right time] intercedes on our behalf with sighs and groanings too deep for words. Romans 8:26 (AMP)

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And looking up to heaven with a deep sigh, He *said to him, "Ephphatha!" that is, "Be opened!" Mark 7:34 (NASB) When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had arrived, they came and started to argue with him. Testing him, they demanded that he show them a miraculous sign from heaven to prove his authority. ¹² When he heard this, <u>he sighed deeply in his spirit</u> and said, "Why do these people keep demanding a miraculous sign? I tell you the truth, I will not give this generation any such sign." ¹³ So he got back into the boat and left them, and he crossed to the other side of the lake. Mark 8:11-13 (NLT)

 $\underline{SIGH} = "To exhale audibly in a long deep breath as in or "."$

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Isaiah 35:10 (NLT)

Sighing is often interpreted as a "Silent _____"

One medical definition of sighing is "Periodic Deep _____

All my longings lie open before you, Lord; my sighing is not hidden from you. Psalm 38:9 (NLT)

People sigh when...

are left unfulfilled.

Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly.⁷ <u>But they were childless</u> because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and <u>they were both very old</u>. Luke 1:6, 7 (NIV)

are disrupted.

...Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee, called Nazareth, to a virgin <u>engaged ²⁷to a man</u> whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. Luke 1:26b, 27 (NASB)

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, <u>but before they came together</u>, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But <u>after</u> he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit."

Matthew 1:18-20 (NIV)

intensify.

Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, <u>that a census</u> <u>be taken of all the inhabited earth</u>. ²This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³<u>And everyone was on his way to register</u> for the census, each to his own city. ⁴ Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, ⁵ in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.⁶ While they were there, the days were completed for her to give <u>birth.</u>⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because <u>there was no room for them in</u> <u>Luke 2:1-7 (NASB)</u>

arise.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and <u>they were terrified</u>.¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "<u>Do not be afraid</u>. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2:8-11 (NIV)

Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord *appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to destroy Him." ¹⁴So Joseph got up and took the Child and His mother while it was still night, and left for Egypt.

Matthew 2:13-14 (NASB)

is tested.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was <u>righteous and</u> <u>devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel</u>, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.²⁷ <u>Moved by the Spirit</u>, <u>he</u> <u>went into the temple courts</u>. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation Luke 2:25-30 (NASB)

Life is _____

And there was a prophetess (Anna)...She was advanced in years, <u>having</u> <u>lived with a husband seven years after her marriage</u>, and then as a widow to <u>the age of eighty-four</u>. And she never left the temple serving night and day with fastings and prayers. And at that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. Luke 2:36-38 (NASB)

> These earthly bodies make us groan and sigh... II Corinthians 5:4a (TLB)

The _____ and _____ of others negatively impact my life.

Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him. He sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, based on the wise men's report of the star's first appearance.¹⁷ Herod's brutal action fulfilled what God had spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸ "A cry was heard in Ramah—weeping and great mourning. Rachel weeps for her children, refusing to be comforted, for they are dead." ¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. ²⁰ "Get up!" the angel said. "Take the child and his mother back to the land of Israel, because those who were trying to kill the child are dead." ²¹ So Joseph got up and returned to the land of Israel with Jesus and his mother.²² But when he learned that the new ruler of Judea was Herod's son Archelaus, he was afraid to go there. Then, after being warned in a dream, he left for the region of Galilee.

Matthew 2:16-22 (NLT)