

Station 3: Tax Booth & Roman soldiers (at the red shed “check-in” booth) JERICHO; Similar vibe as the tax booth at the end in BETHLEHEM.

Tax booth with a tax collector (Zacchaeus?) and one or more Roman soldiers. Tax collector sitting at a wooden table, a census roll on the table. The soldier(s) standing and talking to the group.

Basically threaten people that they must be loyal to Roma and must register for the census to be taxed. Use whatever banter below works for your personality. Be expressive!

- Halt! Who approaches the Roman province of Jericho? Where are you going?
- Wait for their reply.
- As you know, a decree has been issued by our Emperor, the Savior Tiberius Augustus Caesar! **Hail Caesar!**
(Render to Caesar what is Caesar’s)
 - (wait for their Hail Caesar, if not whole hearted, make them do it again. Verify that they are not zealot scum. Make them visibly demonstrate their loyalty to the Empire... (not that Empire. No chewbakas here.)
- Depending on their answer they may already know they are going for a census, if not then “As you know a census shall be taken of all of Caesar’s loyal subjects!”
- You are loyal, right?
- And a loyal subject pays his taxes happily, right?
- So you and your family must be registered and taxed accordingly.
- Where are you going? Bethlehem?...
- You can’t register here! Go through Jerusalem, and turn south to get to Bethlehem.
- I recommend getting a guide, there’s robbers between here and Jerusalem.
- Pay your toll for the road and get going...

This is the gist – try to set the scene and interact the best you can. Try to be loud for those in the back.

Station 7: Inn (with no room) & Census Booth (across the way) near barn

VERY IMPORTANT for both groups: The first of two groups need to take longer at this station than the second group; we are planning for the guides to hold some sort of staff with an **S** for shorter group and **L** for longer group.

At the Bethlehem inn:

- Lots of bantering with a grumpy innkeeper, in which a room is not to be found...
- Take more time with the L-longer group. Sometimes kids are allowed back to see the chickens and *prove* there is no room in the inn. Put the innkeeper assistant to work 😊. Have fun. Drop hints that you’ve had to turn away others – including one very pregnant lady and her husband.

At the BETHLEHEM Census Booth:

- Roman soldier: **“Render to Caesar what is Caesar’s.** Heads of households, be loyal to Caesar, and register! How many in your family? If you lie about your household Caesar will find out and you will be subject to back-taxes at double the rate...”
- Roman Scribe: Genuinely fun disrespectful banter toward “Bethlehemites...”
- Guests will register on a census book. Earlier signatures will include “Joseph, of the line and house of David. Wife, Mary, expecting a child soon.”
 - If it is a S-shorter group, have just one representative sign for the group.
 - If it is a L-longer group, have many sign.