

God is in the

*Manger*

# Old Testament Prophecies of the Messiah

## **Psalms 2:7-9**

Describes the Messiah as a ruler given authority over all nations.

## **Isaiah 9:7**

Foretells that the Messiah will be an heir to the throne of David and that his government will have no end, establishing justice and righteousness forever.

## **Micah 5:2-5**

Micah prophesied that the Messiah would be a ruler from Bethlehem who would bring peace and security to Israel.



Can you see why most Jewish people thought the Messiah would be a great, conquering king?

# What makes a someone powerful?

When you think of a king, or a powerful person, what do you think of?

Money



Power / Authority



Gold / Jewels



# POWER

Fame



A Palace



An Army

# But what kind of a king is born in a stable?

Why would God Himself come to this world as a helpless child, born in a stable, whose family had to go into hiding to protect him?

And why did God choose to have almost no possessions, almost no money, no house, and just the cloths on His back?

And why did He choose a bunch of fishermen and a tax collector to help him change the world?



# The answer is in God's plan

He did not come to win back a kingdom. He did not come to win a contest or to rule in triumph over the kingdom of Rome. He did not come back for money, gold, or other possessions.

Could He could have them all if he wanted?

Yes, but to Him, they mean nothing.

He came back to win something more valuable. Something more difficult to win... our hearts. Our hearts are more stubborn, they are hard, they are jealous, they want money, fame, gold, fancy things, and popularity.

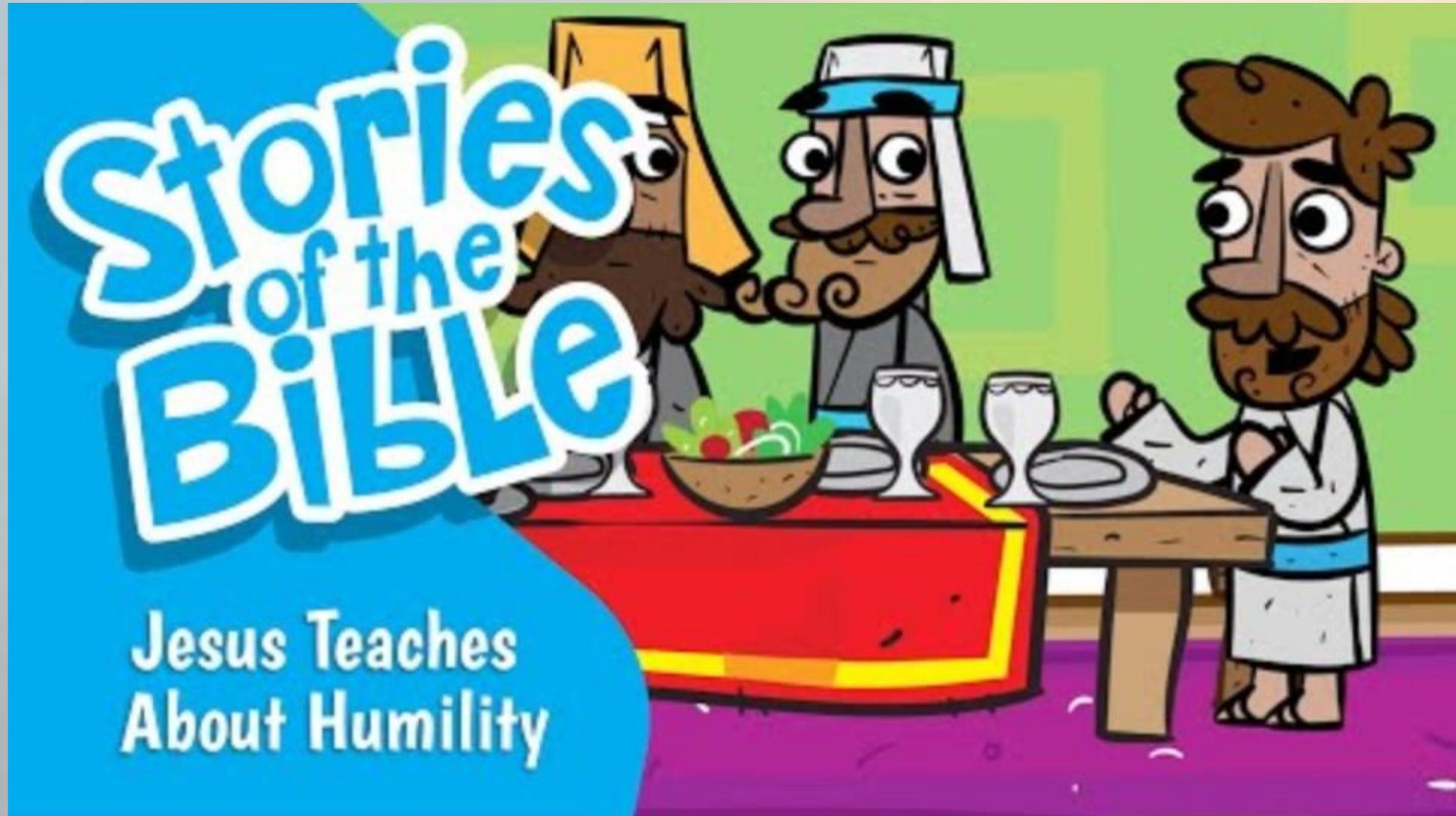
# God's example to us

## Treasures in Heaven

Matthew 6:19 “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup> But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Jesus had to show us, that our lives can be more impactful, more meaningful, more satisfying, and more joyful even if we had nothing that the world considers valuable.

Let's see how Jesus set the example:



# God is in the manger

During Christmas think about Jesus' humble life:

He came to us a defenseless child

He was born in a stable

He became a carpenter like his father

He owned almost nothing but his cloths

He became a servant to all

He associated with the unwanted



Jesus came to win your heart. That you would give your life to God, so that He could give you eternal life. He had to bring himself down to rescue us, and bring us up, by helping us to see that our best life is with Him, not the things of the world we all chase. Try to see that picture of life when you see Jesus, the son of God, in the manger.