

## **The Christmas Story ~ Today: Learning from the “King”** *December 3, 2006*

The verses used in today’s talk were Matthew chapter 2 verses 1 - 16 (734)

### God doesn’t rely on human government to accomplish his will

- Corrupt government doesn’t scare God or negate his work
- Remember that God sent his son right into the middle of King Herod’s world!
- No matter how corrupt, how power-hungry, how cruel, God never runs from corrupt leaders...in fact, he loves to work in spite of them to show his power!
- ***And so, Lord, where do I put my hope? My only hope is in You. Psalm 39 verse 7 (431)***

### King Herod MISUSED people...do I?

- Do you see people as scenery, machinery, pawns, objects, rungs on a ladder?
- In your marriage, is your spouse a sex object...something to use to fulfill your desires? An ATM...where you get your \$? A servant...the one who waits on you to make your life easy?
- At work, do you schmooz your boss & others who can help you? Mistreat those who are below you, those who can do nothing to help you advance? Undercut, sabotage those who are gunning for your position?
- Parents, do you use your kids as a pawn against your “ex?” Use our kids by trying to live out your life thru them?

### King Herod MISLEAD people...do I?

In my relationship with others, where am I misleading others? By lying to others? By telling half-truths? By controlling the information that others know about me? By hiding my struggles & pretending everything is “fine?” By refusing to listen to God’s promptings to seek help?

### King Herod MISTREATED people...do I?

- Where do I constantly cut others down in my life?
- Where do I gossip?
- Where do I intentionally hurt others?
- Where do I refuse to help others?
- Where do I intentionally withhold blessing, complements or praise from others?
- Who am I currently hurting right now because of my desire to hold on to power, control my own destiny?

***We will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ....***

*Ephesians chapter 4 verse 15 (897)*

*Information for this study is taken from “CRIBS: Critical Relationships Initiated By the Savior,” a study by Ed Young, lead pastor of Fellowship Church. This is a multi-campus church with the main campus located in Grapevine Texas. Ed is a dynamic & creative teacher who loves to do church & teaching “outside the box.” Visit Fellowship Church at [www.fellowshipchurch.com](http://www.fellowshipchurch.com)*