

# The True Christmas Story, part 2 Ray Vander Laan

## Ephesians 4:11–16

#### WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES?

- To develop spiritual character and strength to face *anything* by...
- 1. Learning anchored in Biblical truth but addressing cultural issues
- 2. Relationships that connect and blossom even outside the meetings

## Remember... it's all about putting God's truth into action in our everyday lives

## **Opening Thoughts**

- ✓ Any thoughts about "Christmas in Genesis"?
- ✓ Word for the Year reminder
- ✓ 2022 is important and will require the best of us
- $\checkmark$  All of life is in the context of God's mission and spiritual warfare is the means

1

**<u>Review</u>** - compare and contrast - cultural things vs. Biblical things about Christmas

#### **Video Notes**

- Herod's Building Program
- > How Herod benefited the Israelites
- > Jesus' arrival different than Herod's lifestyle
- > The Reaction of the Shepherds and Wisemen
- ➢ Herod's response to Jesus' arrival
- ➤ Legacy of each

### **APPLICATION:**

- $\checkmark$  Knees and nudges lived out by Joseph listening and obeying
  - Matthew 1:18-25
  - Matthew 2:13-15
  - Matthew 2:19-23
- ✓ Herod's compromise vs. Jesus' refusal to compromise How did each...
  Appear to the world

Come to power?

Possess and exercise power?

Come to their "end"?

- $\checkmark$  Compare/contrast Herod and Jesus methods and goals
- $\checkmark$
- $\checkmark$  Spiritual Warfare but not focused on mission vs Being the Salt and Light

TAKEAWAYS:



New Song Community Church New Song Community Church 2021