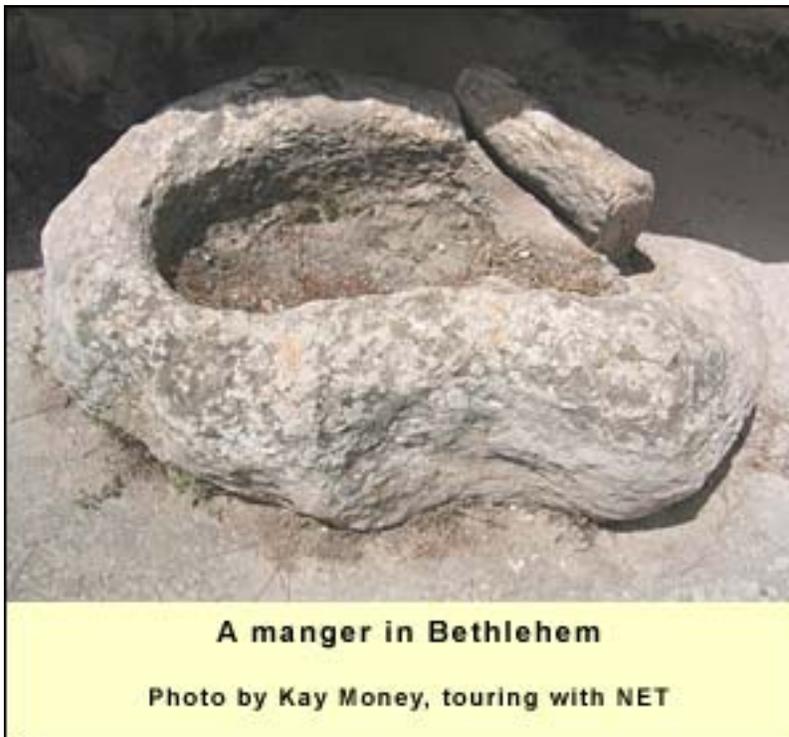


## LESSON PLAN: GIVING UP CHRISTMAS

Miles McPherson - December 04, 2016

Christmas Access / Luke 2:1-7

**There was no room for them in the inn:** This happened in a public place, with other travelers and residents. “Men were trafficking, little children playing, and woman were gossiping beside the well – and lo! The kingdom of heaven was among them.” (Morrison)



**THIS WEEK:** Pastor Miles, described the stark reality of the manger of Jesus and showed us why it was the way it was. And how it IS so much more than the familiar story we all hear during the Christmas season.

### Opening Discussion - Study Questions:

Looking back on 2016 in what areas did you have victory/s in your life?  
Looking back on 2016 consider where did Satan have victory/s in your life?  
Identify an area where Satan had victory/s in the lives of those you know

and love?

### **Group Activity - Putting Knowledge Into Action:**

Share among the group the lies and methods that Satan used to win those battles.

Ask for wisdom from those who have had victory in those battles within your group.

### **Going Deeper - Personal Challenge:**

Make a list of the areas in your life that you are willing to give God permission to remove from your manger. IE: Your thought life? Your Language? Your Online habits? Unconfused lies or crime? Addictions? Dysfunctional behaviors? Fake faith? Phony smiles? Lust? Selfish desires? Pride? Ego? Insecurity? Racism? Jealousy? Empty heart? Fear? Immorality, Impurity, Sensuality, Idolatry, Sorcery, Enmities, Strife, Jealousy, Outbursts of anger, Disputes, Dissensions, Factions, Envy, Drunkenness, Carousing, and things like these.

Pray over that list each morning as God gives you progress until you have victory.

### **Taking it Home - Application:**

Ask in prayer tonight what God wants you to start doing.

Ask in prayer tonight what God wants you to stop doing.

Ask in prayer tonight what God wants you to continue doing.

Then ask Him and thank Him for giving you the desire, and the power to do them.

**BONUS VIDEO:** What Child Is

This [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOiHg5r\\_cmw&list=RDT0iHg5r\\_cmw#t=7](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOiHg5r_cmw&list=RDT0iHg5r_cmw#t=7)

**MEMORY VERSE:** On coming to the house, they saw the child with his

mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Matthew 2:11

**LESSON QUOTE:** “There was no room for them in the inn: Was symbolic of what was to happen to Jesus. The only place where there was room for him was on a cross.” (Barclay)

**LIFE GROUP PRAYER REQUESTS:**

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