[Narrator] Just about all of us like to receive gifts, and Just about all of us like to give gifts. Well, our story today is about both giving and receiving gifts, gifts that God has given us that will help us live the way that Jesus showed us. Our story takes place in a small village in Galilee. Jesus and his followers have just arrived and are meeting the people in the village. Miriam and her brother Judah have been asked by their mother to take food as a gift to the followers of Jesus who have just arrived in town.

In our story are Miriam and her brother Judah and Mary and Joana who are followers of Jesus. Let's see how each of them gives gifts that are inspired by Jesus.

[Scene] Miriam and Judah have baskets in their hands and walk up to Mary and Joana.

[Miriam] Excuse me, did you see the Rabbi and his disciples who just came in?

[Mary] Well yes.

[Judah] We know that he's very busy, but we thought that we could give some of his followers something to eat. After all, they've been on the road all day. Excuse me for asking , but when did you come into town, I don't recognize you.

[Joana] Well, I guess that we are some of the people you are looking for because we just came in with Jesus.

[Miriam] Don't kid me. You are women so I know you must have come in with your families on the way to somewhere else. I don't mean to show you a lack of respect, but, well, Rabbi's never travel with anyone but men. Everybody knows that.

[Mary] Well, you don't know this Rabbi. We travel with him and his group that has both men and women in it and we share our gifts with each other as well as with Jesus.

[Judah] What do you mean, you share your gifts?

[Mary] Well, Jesus is very good at helping people to understand themselves and understand what God has in mind for them to do. He helped me a lot, I was doing things that hurt me and those I loved and he showed me how much God loves me and he helped me to change. That's one of his gifts and now I get to share my story with people like you, and That's one of my gifts.

[Joana] My husband is the steward for Hared so my family has been blessed with money and I control some of it. I get to let Jesus have it. That's one of my gifts. Sometimes I am able to go out with Jesus to be a more active follower so, I get to share my money with Jesus and his followers, and my stories of Jesus with the people I meet, and those are my gifts.

[Miriam] Well, it sounds like you are who we were looking for even though we didn't realize it. Here is our gift. [gives basket] Our family would really like to have you stay with us tonight and share the gift of all of your stories about Jesus with us.

[Narrator] So, that night Mary and Joana stayed with Miriam, Judah and their family. They shared their gifts of food and stories. They learned about Jesus and what he was teaching from a couple of his closest followers. Then they had the gift of being able to share those stories with their children and friends. Now, because they shared their gifts by telling people about Jesus and God's love with each other, and their followers shared the gift of these stories through the years, we can take our turn at sharing the gifts that God has given us with each other.