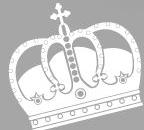


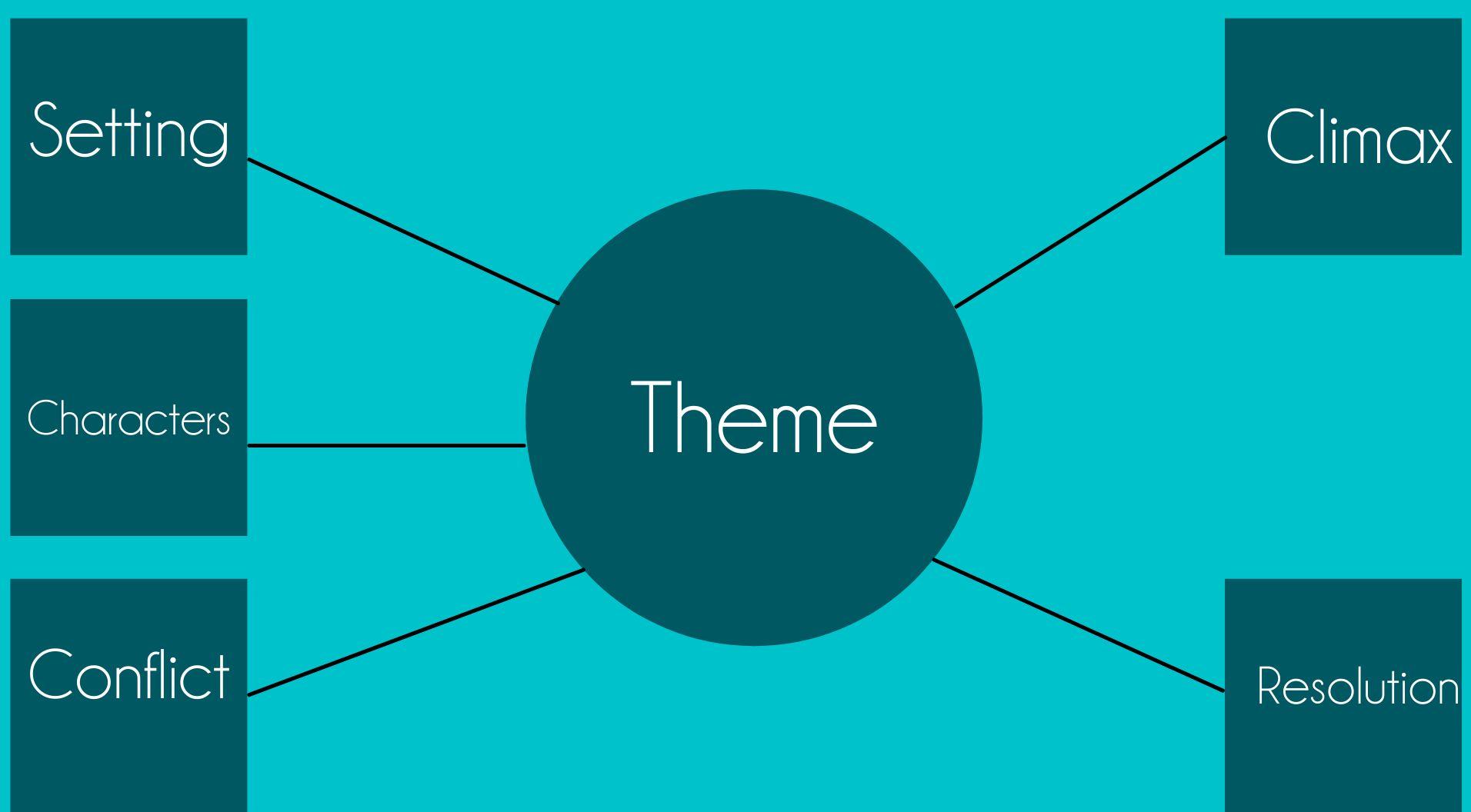
# Behind The Scenes



*God at work in the story of Esther*



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# Background

- No known author
- Historical novella
- God is never mentioned

# Theme

God's silence is not God's  
absence

# Setting

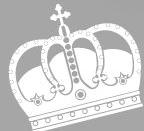
- Susa - modern day Iran
- King's Court
- Court life is extravagant

**4** For a full 180 days he displayed the vast wealth of his kingdom and the splendor and glory of his majesty.

**5** When these days were over, the king gave a banquet, lasting seven days, in the enclosed garden of the king's palace, for all the people from the least to the greatest who were in the citadel of Susa.

**6** The garden had hangings of white and blue linen, fastened with cords of white linen and purple material to silver rings on marble pillars. There were couches of gold and silver on a mosaic pavement of porphyry, marble, mother-of-pearl and other costly stones. **7** Wine was served in goblets of gold, each one different from the other, and the royal wine was abundant, in keeping with the king's liberality. **8** By the king's command each guest was allowed to drink with no restrictions, for the king instructed all the wine stewards to serve each man what he wished.

# Behind The Scenes



*God at work in the story of Esther*

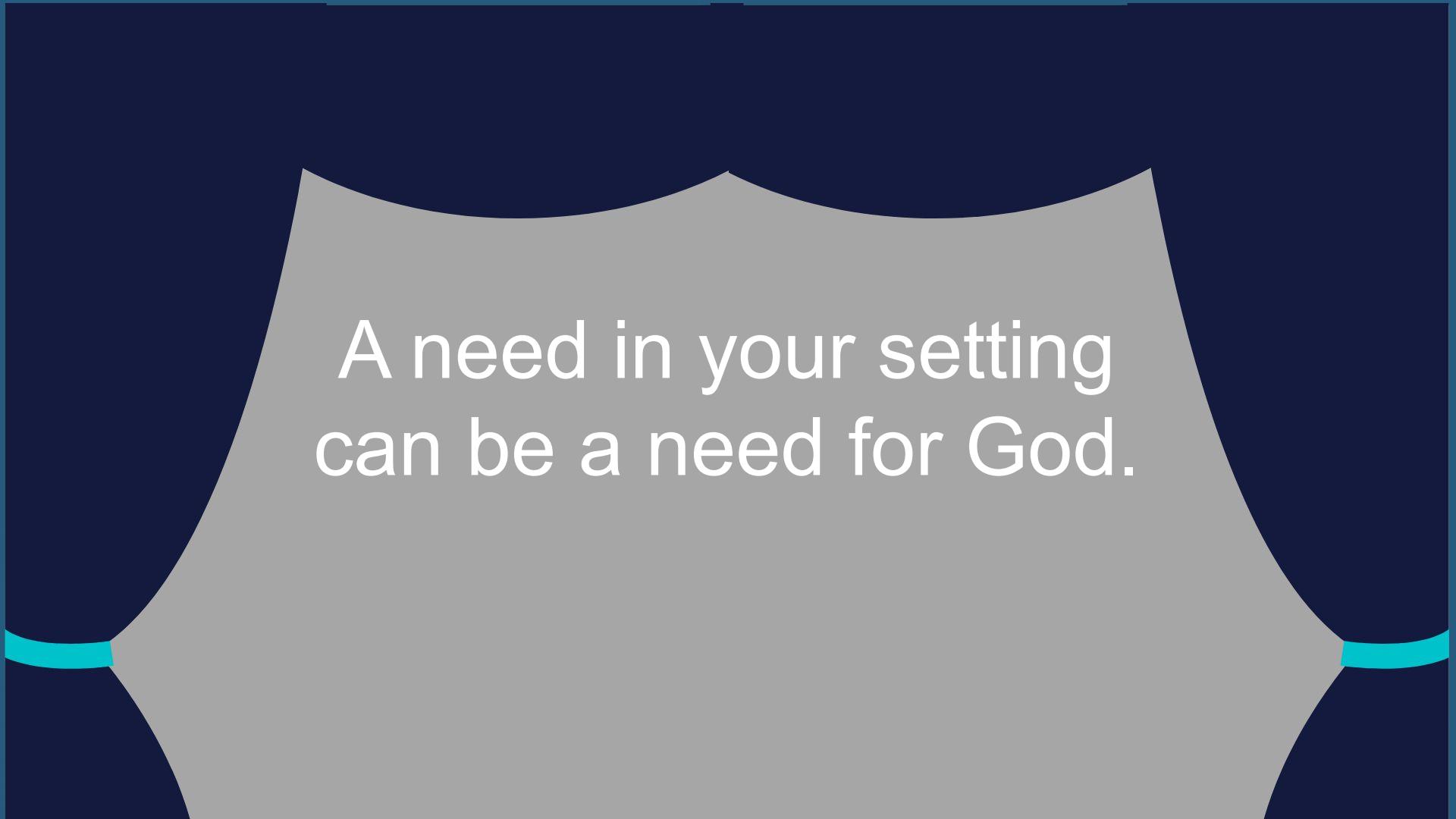


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**10** On the seventh day, when King Xerxes was in high spirits from wine, he commanded the seven eunuchs who served him—Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, Abagtha, Zethar and Karkas— **11** to bring before him Queen Vashti, wearing her royal crown, in order to display her beauty to the people and nobles, for she was lovely to look at. **12** But when the attendants delivered the king's command, Queen Vashti refused to come. Then the king became furious and burned with anger.

# Where is God?

- With His people
- In the King's court
- In the need for new royalty



A need in your setting  
can be a need for God.

# Where is God in Your Setting?

- Do you think about your setting?
- Can you see God in your setting?