



Week 2: "Home Alone"



GET GOING!

CHRISTMAS TABOO

ITEMS NEEDED

Word cards (see page three for Christmas Taboo Cards)
Stopwatch

DIRECTIONS

Have the group try to describe the underlined word without using one of the words listed on the card. Keep track of total seconds used before correctly guessing word (30 seconds max).

GET PERSONAL.

1. Have you ever seen the movie Home Alone? If so what's your favorite part?
2. What was your most favorite Christmas present you ever received? Why?

WHAT'S NEXT?

Read Colossians 1:19-20

3. How do these verses deal with the Christmas story? How would you describe the incarnation?
4. A few verses earlier in Colossians 1:15, Paul tells us that Jesus is the visible image of the invisible God. For 33 years God put on flesh and lived as a human! Spend a few minutes and reflect on what Jesus teaches us about God.

Read Colossians 1:21

5. In the movie "Home Alone," Kevin basically disowns his family and decides he would be better off on his own. How is this similar to our relationship with God, which is described in verse 21?
6. Mark mentioned that sin is always fun *at first* but leaves us feeling lonely, empty, and broken inside. How have you experienced this in your own life?

No one is ever too lost not to be sought.

Read Luke 15:11-22

7. Describe a time when you mended a relationship that was tense. How did it feel to reconcile that relationship?
8. Even though the son didn't deserve his father's forgiveness, his dad offered it willingly. How does this story Jesus tells reinforce the principle that: no one is ever too lost not to be sought?
9. How do we see Kevin's mom offering forgiveness and pursuing him even though Kevin didn't deserve it? What did she have to do to get back to her son?

Read Colossians 1:22-23

10. Mark mentioned that the words "but now" in verse 22 represent a big change. What is the change that takes place as a result of God's incarnation and crucifixion? What did it cost God to bring us back to Him?
11. Who is someone you know who needs to be sought? What can you do to help introduce them to Jesus this Christmas season?

PRAY.

Spend some time thanking God for the reconciliation that we celebrate each year at Christmas. Thank Him for the gift of Jesus and the great cost He took on to make a way back to Himself. Pray for those you are planning on inviting to the Christmas Eve service.

DON'T FORGET.

Encourage your group members to check out these passages during the week to keep the learning going and their relationship with God growing.

Ephesians 2:1-10, Luke 15:1-32, Philipians 2:1-11, John 3:1-18, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

For further application, use the App Notes, which are posted each day on our Facebook Page. If you've missed this week's message, you can watch online at parkerhill.org

Christmas Taboo Cards

<p>SHEPHERDS</p> <hr/> <p>MANGER SHEEP ANGELS BETHLEHEM</p>	<p>BABY JESUS</p> <hr/> <p>BIRTH MANGER GOD MARY SON</p>	<p>PRESENTS</p> <hr/> <p>GIFTS GIVE WRAP BUY LISTS</p>	<p>SNOW</p> <hr/> <p>WHITE COLD FLAKE SKI</p>
<p>SANTA</p> <hr/> <p>RED NORTH POLE ELVES CHIMNEY</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS TREE</p> <hr/> <p>DECORATE LIGHTS ORNAMENTS PRESENTS</p>	<p>RUDOLPH</p> <hr/> <p>REINDEER NOSE RED SLEIGH</p>	<p>MISTLETOE</p> <hr/> <p>KISS HANG DOOR HEAD</p>
<p>STOCKING</p> <hr/> <p>FIREPLACE FEET FILL HANG SANTA</p>	<p>WISEMEN</p> <hr/> <p>THREE STAR GIFT FRANCINCENSE MYRRH GOLD</p>	<p>CANDY CANE</p> <hr/> <p>SWEET RED WHITE STRIPE</p>	<p>STAR</p> <hr/> <p>SKY LIGHT NIGHT BRIGHT WISEMEN</p>