



Part 3: Home is...

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December 18 & 19, 2010

**Home:** A place of warmth and shelter

**Home is supposed to be:**

A place of safety  
A place of peace  
A place to be  
A place of shelter

**Home might be:**

A place of danger  
A place of chaos  
A place to avoid  
A place of exposure

**For the parents of the Messiah (Joseph and Mary), home is constantly changing:**

Nazareth to Bethlehem (Luke 2:3-7)

Bethlehem back to Nazareth (Luke 2:39-40)

Nazareth to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-14)

Egypt to Nazareth (Matthew 2:19-23)

**What can we learn from this transiency?**

Home is where God is.

Home is being at rest where God has placed you.

Home is in your obedience.

*(Continues on back)*

## Some Christmas obedience to help you find another way home:

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. – *Ephesians 4:29*

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.  
– *Romans 12:18*

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. – *1 Peter 1:22*

Do this...in remembrance of me. – *1 Corinthians 11:25*

The LORD's justice will dwell in the desert,  
his righteousness live in the fertile field.

The fruit of that righteousness will be peace;  
its effect will be quietness and confidence forever.

My people will live in peaceful dwelling places,  
in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest.

– *Isaiah 32:16-18*

## Next Steps

Jesus has included us in all that he offers, and he wants us to include others. Write down the name of at least one unchurched person you can invite to join you at a Christmas Eve service this season. For each name you write down, take home a Christmas Eve invitation (found in the Commons) and make time this week to give invitations to those people. Don't worry about an immediate "yes" from them. Let them take time to decide.

I will invite \_\_\_\_\_

### Small Group Questions



- 1) What kind of memories of home do you have from childhood? Positive? Negative?
- 2) Which physical location do you call home right now in your life? What makes that specific location home?
- 3) Why do you think God's plan often takes us back over already travelled roads? What is his purpose in that?
- 4) How can you make your home a place of peace and rest this Christmas?
- 5) What tangible expression of obedience will you offer to Jesus in this gift giving season?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?