

I'll Be "Home" For Christmas

2025-12-14 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



Luke 1:37

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

Look closely at the Christmas story and you notice something odd: almost nobody in it was home. Joseph was traveling to a town he no longer lived in. The shepherds were out in the fields, and they got invited in first. And the family Jesus built was never based on bloodline. Pastor Matt was open about not having much family Christmas tradition himself. His point: the home God offers is spiritual, not physical, and it has room for people who share no last name with you. Which raises a question: what would it cost us to make Christmas less comfortable so somebody else has a home?

To get started

- What does the word home make you picture?

Looking back at the message

Christmas is a hard season for some people in the room. Go gently.

- 1 Pastor Matt pointed out that nobody in the Christmas story was actually home. What had you never noticed about that?
- 2 Pastor Matt was open about growing up without much family Christmas tradition. How did his honesty change the way the message landed?
- 3 Pastor Matt suggested Christmas might be meant to stretch us rather than comfort us, widening the table beyond family. What do you think of that? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read Luke 2:1-7 and 8-16, then Ephesians 2:14-19.

- 4 Read Luke 2:1-7. Where is Joseph from, where does he have to go, and why?
- 5 In verses 8-16, who gets told first, and what was their social standing at the time?
- 6 Ephesians 2:14 says a dividing wall was destroyed. What was the wall between?
- 7 Luke 1:37 says nothing is impossible with God. What impossible thing sits right next to that verse in the chapter? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

The uncomfortable-Christmas question is the sharp one. Do not resolve it for anyone.

- 8 Pastor Matt asked what your gut says to the idea of inviting people you barely know into your Christmas. What did yours say?
- 9 If home is spiritual rather than physical, where should you be looking for it?
- 10 Who do you know who will be alone or disconnected this season?
- 11 What loss makes this season harder for you? You do not have to explain it. OPTIONAL

The group together

This one has an obvious action. Name it before the group leaves.

- 12 If this church is a family with no shared bloodline, what should that look like in December specifically?
- 13 What would it cost this group to make room for someone with nowhere to go?
- 14 Who could you actually invite, and by what date?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

What would you give up so that someone else could have a home this season?

You might pray about

- For those with no family to go to
- For grief that gets louder at Christmas
- For a willingness to be less comfortable so someone else belongs
- For a home that does not depend on a house