

CHRISTMAS AT THE MOVIES, PART 2: DIE HARD

For many people, Christmas feels less like "peace on earth" and more like an attack on the Nakatomi building. Emotional chaos, stress, broken relationships, anxiety, grief, financial pressure, and hidden struggles can make this season overwhelming. We assume God only shows up when life is calm and put together—but the Christmas story reminds us that God steps *into* the mess, the fear, and the broken places to rescue us.

BIG IDEA: Christmas is the story of God entering our chaos to rescue us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Is Die Hard a Christmas movie—yes or no? Why do you feel so strongly about your answer?
- 2. What's one thing that tends to make your Christmas season feel chaotic instead of peaceful?
- 3. With the Bible or Bible App, read John 1:14.

So the Word became human and made His home among us.

John 1:14 (NLT)

- 4. What stands out to you about the idea that God "made His home" among us?
- 5. Jimmy pointed out that the *first* Christmas was anything but calm—unexpected pregnancy, travel, no room, political pressure, danger. How does knowing the real story of Jesus' birth help you reframe your own holiday stress?
- 6. Jimmy said Jesus didn't come to negotiate with the enemy—He came to destroy the enemy's work. <u>1 John</u> <u>3:8 reads</u>...

But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8 (NLT)

What are some ways people feel "held hostage" today (fear, shame, addiction, anxiety, bitterness, etc.)?

- 7. Jimmy asked us to identify the places in our lives that feel trapped or stuck. What's one area of your life right now that feels like it's being "held hostage"?
- 8. With the Bible or Bible App, <u>read Ephesians 2:13</u>.

But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to Him through the blood of Christ.

<u>Ephesians 2:13 (NLT)</u>

- 9. Why is reconciliation such a central theme of Christmas? How does this verse speak to feelings of distance or unworthiness before God?
- 10. Jimmy talked about the "rooms" in our hearts we don't want Jesus to enter—the attic, basement, or closets. Why do you think we're tempted to keep certain areas of our lives closed off from God?
- 11. Once we've been rescued, we become people who step into others' chaos. What might it look like for your group or church to carry someone else's burden this Christmas season?
- 12. What is one step you feel God inviting you to take right now—naming your chaos, inviting Jesus into it, or surrendering the illusion that you can fix yourself?

MOVING FORWARD

Christmas reminds us that we are not alone, forgotten, or abandoned. Jesus stepped into the chaos of the world—and He is still stepping into ours today. This week, be honest about where you feel stuck. Invite Jesus into that exact place. And remember, you are not the hero of your story—you are the one being rescued, and that is very good news.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

So the Word became human and made His home among us.

John 1:14 (NLT)