SERIES: Christmas @ the Movies MESSAGE: POLAR EXPRESS 'I was listening for a Sound *I was afraid I'd never Hear.*'

**Isaiah 9:2, 6-7** <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined...

<sup>6</sup>For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (this is the In-Between)

<sup>7</sup>Of the increase of *His* government and peace *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

## We Can LIVE IN A HOLY ANTICIPATION of His Eminent RETURN!!!

Scene Two: What if this is your Crucial Year?

(No slides needed here, just for notes if room)

"WHY I BELIEVE in Santa Claus" - Pastor Mau

**The Man.** The story of a man, born to plenty, but orphaned to an incredible life of service. Nicholas learned the secrets to giving by leaving treasures in the stillness of night. Known as the kind bishop, the Christ Kind, SinterKlass, and eventually Santa Claus, he is an EXAMPLE of the Spirit of Giving that inspires us each holiday season to bless those in need.

**The Message.** The key to blessing, abundance, and joy is found in the Word and modeled in Nicholas's life. God wants us to give cheerfully, to give secretly, Worshipfully, & fearlessly in absolute faith that He will meet all of our needs, just as we strive to meet the needs of Others.

**The Master. JESUS,** The ultimate gift, sent to a dying world, paid the price for our sins. Jesus lived a life of compassion, consistently showing His followers that blessings lie in what you are willing to give. More than the reason for the season, His generosity and instruction are the heart of a life well lived.

## 'Follow the Light!

Scene THREE: Seeing Is Believing RIght!?

1 Peter 1:8-9 ESV 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, 9 obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

## What's Holding You Back?

Scene FOUR: OK I BELIEVE. I BELIEVE!

1 Thess 4:15-16 ESV 15For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.