



Message Outline
Christmas thru the Clips:
Christmas Vacation
John 1:14-18

Intro: Entering Christmas thru classical Christmas clips...

- The Grinch: a heart issue at the heart of Christmas (Mt.15:19-20, Jer.17:9).
- Rudolf: a misfit nature that saves the day (Mt.1:20-21).
- This week, saying grace Scripturally...

Read: John 1:14-18

v.14a—The Incarnation...

v.14b—Grace AND Truth...

v.15-16—A dispensation of grace...

v.17—Biblical plot leading to grace...

v.18—The Son makes the gracious Father known...

How the Bible (not Bethany) says Grace ☺

- Grace used 156x in NT...
- Luke 1:30-31: Grace the source of Mary's favor... (cf. 1Cor.15:10)
- Gal.1:3, 6:18: NT letters open and close with grace...
- Rev.22:21: Last lines of NT is grace...
- Exod.34:6: OT overtones of grace...

Defining Grace

- Grace: "unmerited favor"
- "Grace: a gift that costs everything for the giver and nothing for the recipient." -Philip Yancey
- A verse to define grace: Eph.2:8-10
- Wesleyan Understanding of Grace:
 - 1) _____ Grace (Mt.5:44-45)
 - 2) _____ Grace (Rom.3:24-25)
 - 3) _____ Grace (2Pet.3:18)
- The House of Grace...

Closing: Where are you in your experience of God's grace?

3rd Sunday of Advent:
Joy



*"Why look here—**changing from bad to good's** as easy as taking your first step."¹*

⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² **Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—** ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

—John 1:9-13 NIV

¹ Kris Kringle from Santa Claus is Coming to Town by Rankin/Bass Productions 1970.