

Chris: Uh, well, uh, the city has so many churches, I haven't decided on one yet. Ken keeps inviting me to his church, but I like to sleep in on Sunday's so haven't gone with him, either.

Kyla: What kind of guy is Ken?

Chris: He's the music director at his church. It's a smaller church in the suburbs; it sounds a lot like the church here. I finally promised him I'd go to their Christmas program this year. He's the one that insisted that I needed to come back for the church's Christmas Dinner. He thinks I need to give Dad a chance to explain about Mom and the Study Hall project.

Kyla: Chris, you need to give your Dad a chance AND you need to give GOD a chance. You're a doctor, and you of all people ought to realize that there are no guarantees on life. What better time than Christmas to give your life back to God. (Turns to leave) I'd better get your pancakes ordered and check some of these other tables.

*(Curtains Closes as Kyla turns away. Chris is still sitting at the table slowly sipping his water and "thinking.")*

## Scene Four

*Chris Walker  
Mr. Carl Walker  
Melanie Osborne  
Levi Osborne*

*(The curtain opens in the Study Hall. You could have a bookcase with a few books, and a study table. Mr. Walker is sitting at the table as Levi walks in.)*

Mr. Walker: Hello Levi, what do you want to read today?

Levi: Can I read the Christmas Story again?

Mr. Walker: Sure, that's a great idea since this will be your last reading lesson until after Christmas. (Mr. Walker goes over to get the book from the bookcase.)

*(It is important that when they sit down, both need to be seen by the audience, however, they need to have their backs to the "door" because once Levi starts reading, CHRIS WILL SLIP IN SILENTLY and listen to his dad and Levi. Chris needs to be out of the doorway so that Melanie doesn't see him when she walks in.)*

*(Depending on the reading ability of your child, if they have trouble with some of the words, Mr. Walker can help sound out the words so the child can read. If your child can't read very well, Mr. Walker could point at the words as he says complete phrases*

*that the child can repeat after him. He can turn a page for every sentence, pretending it is a picture book with only one sentence per picture.)*

Levi (reading): Once upon a time there was a sweet young lady named Mary. Her husband was Joseph. They had a tiny little baby boy named Jesus. The shepherds came to worship Him. The wisemen came to worship Him. When Jesus was older he liked to study the Word of God. When he was a man, he taught the people about God. Some people did not like Jesus. Jesus gave His life that we might have ever-last-ing life.

Mr. Walker: Very good, Levi. That was very good.

Levi: Mr. Walker, what is ever-last-ing life?

Mr. Walker: Life that never stops, it lasts forever and ever and ever.

Levi: Why didn't my daddy have ever-last-ing life?

Mr. Walker (putting his arm around Levi's shoulders and drawing him close): Levi, your daddy DID have everlasting life. But his EVERLASTING LIFE is in heaven. Do you know what a Christian is?

Levi: Yes, a Christian is me, Mommy and Daddy 'cause we love Jesus.

Mr. Walker: Well, when you are a Christian Jesus gives you everlasting life. You can still get sick, you can still get hurt, and you can still die, but WHEN you die, you get to go to heaven and live forever and ever in heaven with Jesus. That is everlasting life.

Levi: Mr. Walker, did you ever have a daddy?

Mr. Walker: Yes, Levi, but my daddy went to heaven, too. He got really sick and the doctors couldn't make him better so Jesus let him go to heaven so he wouldn't be sick anymore. I missed him a lot, and I cried sometimes because I wanted my daddy, but I know if I stay a Christian, when I die I will get to go to heaven, too.

Levi: Mr. Walker, did you ever have a little boy like me?

Mr. Walker: Yes, Levi, I had a little boy. His name is Chris. He's a big boy now. He is a doctor. He will be coming to see me this weekend; he's going to be at the Christmas Dinner at the church. I hope you get to meet him.

Levi: I want to see him. I know I will like him if he's as nice as you. (Levi gives Mr. Walker a hug.)

Melanie (walks in and goes to table, keeping her back to the door so she doesn't see Chris, puts her hands on Levi's shoulders as she talks to Mr. Walker): You guys ready for Christmas break? I just talked to Levi's teacher and she said he's caught up with the