

Joy in Christmas (Children's Sermon)
Luke 2:8-21, Pew Bible p. 857
December 25, 2022

I. The Word of the Angels (V. 8-14)

A. The Christmas story saves people.

II. The Response of the Shepherds (V. 15-21)

A. The Christmas story is:

1. Treasure
2. Glorifying to God

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read Luke 2:8-21.
2. Has God ever spoken to you at a time in your life when you were hard to reach, as He did the shepherds in verse 8? Why were you hard to reach and how did He reach you?
3. In what ways is the coming of Jesus good news for *all* people and not just *some* people, as verse 10 says? What is the difference between good news, which is what Christmas brought, and a good story, which is what Christmas is often limited to?
4. In what way did the coming of Jesus bring peace to those in whom God is pleased, as the angels said in verse 14?
5. Have you ever received a treasured memory or blessing as a result of the obedience of others, as Mary did from the shepherds in verse 19?
6. Describe a time in your life when you were so blown away by God you just started praising Him with more genuineness and authenticity than ever before, as the shepherds did in verse 20? What prompted your worship?
7. Pray for our church members to be on mission to *all* people during this Christmas season. Consider coming to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the Worship Center across the hall from the Choir Room.

Church Bible Reading Plan

2 Kings 6-8

December Memory Verses: 1 Kings 18:36-37



Luke 4:17-21

17 And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him (Jesus). He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." 20 And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting

- PRAYING for an evangelistic Bible Study our pastor is leading for interested residents of the Verve Apartments

Pray for Our Church Family Needs:

- PRAY for missions and missionaries:
Andy & Lindsay M. in Spain; Luke P. in Maricopa, Arizona; Nathan & Becky F. in Indonesia; Doug & Cheryl D. in Thailand; Jules S. in Thailand; and Sylvia M. and Andrew M. at ASU West, Glendale, Arizona
- PRAY for all our students: elementary school, middle school, high school, and college. No matter whether they are in the classroom, an online setting, or a home school setting, our students are forming minds that need to focus on Christ.
- Family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus:
Marge D. – Salvation for son, Matthew
- Families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:
Elaine D. (sister); Gary & Betty B. (brother-in-law); Family of Wayne & Twila D.; Larry & Brenda D. (her sister-in-law); Gertrude A. (granddaughter); Family of John E.
- Those struggling with ongoing health and other issues:
Michelle L. (health issues); Leon V. (chemo); Debbie B. (chemo); Mary R. (transplant recovery); Laura M. (health issues); Stan & Twyla H. (health & other issues); Michelle LaM. (health issues); Debbie P. (health issues); Ken & Darlene R. (health issues); Don R. (pneumonia and broken ribs); Carolyn H. (father in hospice); and Ann C.-W. (health issues)
- Others that you are aware of