

December 20, 2015
Luke 2:8-14

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS ABOUT?

I. Introduction: What Is Christmas About?

II. The First Christmas Message Was Given To Shepherds

A. What the Shepherds Learned That Christmas was About?

1. _____ Is Important To God

[8] And there were **shepherds** living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. [9] An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.” Luke 2:8-9

2. God Has Wonderful News For All Who _____

10] “**Do not be afraid**, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to **all people**. (11) For there is born to you this day in the city of David a **Savior, who is Christ the Lord**. (12) And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.” Luke 2:10-11

3. The Good News results in _____ and _____ God.

13] Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, **praising** God and saying, [14] “**Glory to God in the highest**, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.” Luke 2:13-14

IV. Conclusion

Do you know what Christmas is about?

POINTS TO PONDER
Week of December 20th to 26th
What is Christmas About?
Luke 2:8-20

Open It

1. *What is the most unique birth announcement you've ever seen?
2. What do you imagine angels look like?
3. If you could sleep out under the stars anywhere in the world, where would you put down your pillow?

Explore It

4. At what time and place did the angels appear to the shepherds? (2:8)
5. How many angels did the shepherds see at first? (2:9)
6. How did the shepherds react when they saw the angel? (2:9)
7. To whom did the angel address his good news? (2:10)
8. *What message did the angel tell the shepherds? (2:10, 12)
9. Who did the angel say the newborn child really was? (2:11)
10. *By what symbol or sign were the shepherds supposed to identify the Christ child? (2:12)

11. How many angels did the shepherds hear praising God? (2:13)
12. *What was the immediate reaction of the shepherds after the angels left? (2:15)
13. After finding the Christ child, what did the shepherds do? (2:17-20)
14. What kind of reactions did the shepherds get when they told others what had happened that night? (2:18)
15. How did Mary respond to the shepherds' visit? (2:19)

Get It

16. If you had been with the shepherds on the night Christ was born, what would you have done after the angels left?
17. In what ways did the shepherds obey God that night?
18. *What should be our response when we discover what God wants us to do?
19. What does it mean that Mary "treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart"?
20. Of what significance is it that the shepherds went back to their flocks?
21. *What is the responsibility of those who "discover" the good news about Jesus?
22. Who needs to be told about the birth and life of Christ?

Apply It

23. In what ways can you renew your enthusiasm for the message of Jesus' birth?
24. *How can you glorify and praise God with other Christians this week?

Notes: