



# Joyous News

December 18 & 21, 2025

## Ice Breaker

What's the most memorable Christmas gift you've ever received - either one that looked simple on the outside but was amazing when opened, or one that looked fancy but was disappointing?

## Key Verses

- Luke 2:1-10 (NASB)
- Luke 2:10-11 (NASB)
- Luke 2:12-13 (NASB)
- Luke 2:13-14 (NLT)
- Luke 2:15 (NASB)
- Acts 10:36 (NASB)
- Acts 10:43 (NASB)

## Questions

- Why do you think God chose to announce Jesus's birth to humble shepherds?
- The pastor mentioned that the shepherds were 'terribly frightened' when the angel appeared. Why is having a healthy 'fear of God' important in our spiritual lives?
- How does understanding both the humility and the glory of Jesus's birth change your perspective on Christmas?
- The angel said the good news would bring 'great joy.' What aspects of Jesus being our Savior bring you the most joy?
- The angels proclaimed, "peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased." What does it mean to have peace with God through Jesus?

- The shepherds immediately said “Let's go straight to Bethlehem” after hearing the angels’ message. What does their urgent response teach us about how we should respond to the gospel?
- How can we avoid missing the true meaning of Christmas amidst all the cultural celebrations and traditions?
- In what ways can we share the “good news of great joy” that the angels proclaimed with others during this Christmas season?

## Life Application

This week, identify one person in your life who needs to hear the good news that Jesus came as their Savior. Pray for an opportunity to share the true meaning of Christmas with them - that Jesus was born to save us from our sins and give us peace with God. Like the shepherds who couldn't keep the good news to themselves, look for a natural way to tell someone about the hope and joy that comes from knowing Jesus as your personal Savior.

## Key Takeaways

- Jesus's birth demonstrates both profound humility (born in a manger to poor parents) and spectacular glory (announced by God's angelic army)
- Everyone should have a healthy fear of God's judgment, but the good news is that Jesus came as our Savior to save us
- The angels proclaimed that Jesus is Savior, Christ (Messiah), and Lord - offering salvation to all who believe in Him
- Like the shepherds, we should respond immediately and urgently to the gospel message without delay
- Jesus offers peace with God as a free gift to anyone who believes in Him as their personal Savior

# Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for the incredible truth we've discussed today - that You came into this world as both a humble baby and the mighty Savior of the world. Help us to never lose sight of the wonder and glory of Your birth and what it means for our lives. As we leave this time together, may we carry the same urgency as the shepherds to share this good news with others. Give us boldness to tell people about You during this Christmas season. And for anyone in our group who may still be considering the gospel message, we pray that Your Holy Spirit would continue to work in their hearts. Thank You for being our Savior and for the peace with God that You offer freely to all who believe. In Your precious name we pray, Amen.