

# Advent Devotional: "Do You Hear What I Hear?"

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Scripture: Luke 2:8-10

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.' "

God's announcement of salvation begins with an invitation to listen.

*"Okay, guys! Before we jump into today's story, let's turn on our listening ears."* This is how we often start our Bible lesson together at Grace Kids Mooresville. It's a chance for us all to settle in, shut out the distractions around us, and tune in to hear the good news.

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**In Luke 2, we see a powerful example of what happens when people truly listen. On an ordinary night, shepherds were quietly tending their sheep when suddenly the stillness was broken by an angel's voice announcing the birth of Jesus. God didn't choose to speak first to kings or priests, but to humble shepherds: people who were awake, alert, and ready to hear.**

**That same God is still speaking to us today. In the middle of our busy schedules filled with everything from Christmas parties to gift wrapping, final exams to the end-of-year crunch at work, constant notifications and background noise — it can be hard to pause long enough to hear His gentle whisper. Throughout this Christmas season, we'll hear a lot of things, but let's not forget what, or rather who we should be listening to.**

**God often speaks in small, unexpected ways. A verse you've read a hundred times suddenly feels personal and alive. A worship song plays at just the right moment, reminding you that you're not alone. A friend sends a text saying they're praying for you, right when you need some encouragement.**

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**Maybe it's the laughter of your child that softens a weary heart, or the quiet nudge to slow down and breathe when your day feels overwhelming. God's voice is gentle but constant, woven into the rhythms of everyday life.**

**Take a deep breath today and don't forget to turn on your listening ears.**

