

December 24, 2017
Luke 2:8-14

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS ALL ABOUT?

I. Introduction:

What is Christmas All About?

II. God's Message is _____

10] But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring **you** good news of great joy that will be for all the people.
11] Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to **you**; he is Christ^[a] the Lord. 12] This will be a sign to **you**: **You** will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12

III. God's Message Demands a _____

Jesus seeks a response:

- "But what about you? Who do you say that I am?"
Matthew 16:15
- "Who do you say that I am?" Mark 8:29
- "Who do you say that I am?" Luke 9:20
- "Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even though he die, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26,

15] When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "**Let's go to Bethlehem** and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." Luke 2:15

IV. God's message is reason for us to _____

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

“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to **YOU!**” Luke 2:11

“My soul glorifies the Lord. And my spirit **rejoices** in God **my Savior.**” Luke 1:46-47

“The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son and they will call him Immanuel, which means, “**God with us.**” Matthew 1:23

V. Conclusion and Application

16] "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

8] “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9

There is no greater gift that you can receive this Christmas than the gift of God's son, our Lord Jesus Christ. **He came for YOU.**

POINTS TO PONDER
Week of December 25th to December 30th
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?