**Date**: December 16, 2018
**Passage**: Luke 2:8-21
**Theme**: Gripped by Glory: Shepherds

**Summary**: This week we will look at the most magnificent birth announcement ever made. We learn a great deal about how God has chosen to relate with humanity through this heavenly pronouncement to a group of humble, ordinary shepherds.

**Outline:**

I. The Greatest Birth Announcement Ever Made (2:8-14)
- a. The Recipients (2:8-9)
- b. The Pronouncement (2:10-12)
- c. Heaven's Joy (2:13-14)

II. The Response of Those Who Hear (2:15-20)
- a. Shepherds Confirmation (2:15-17)
- b. Wonder by All (2:18)
- c. Mary's Pondering (2:19)
- d. The Shepherd's Joy (2:20)

III. The Word Fulfilled (2:21)

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What do the shepherds teach us about who Jesus came for? Do you share God's heart for those for whom he came?

2. What is your personal response to the coming of Jesus?

3. Do you share heaven's joy over Christ?

4. How are you being gripped by God's glory (his majestic "otherness" and his goodness to give mercy and grace)?

5. Is God's glory producing joy in your life?

6. Who needs to hear this good news in your life? Pray for them. Pray for opportunities to speak with them about why Jesus came. Take whatever opportunities you have.