



Messengers
Jason Shawa
“Moved from Fear to Glory”
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Key Verses: Luke 2:1-14

Key Thought: God can transform us from victims of fear into messengers of glory!

Points to Consider:

- Mary and Joseph must've struggled with fear as they grappled with the **unexpected circumstances** of God's work in their lives. → God can work in your life through utterly *unexpected* circumstances.
- Caesar decreed a census to seek to tax all people; however, these **prophetic circumstances** positioned Jesus for birth in Bethlehem, the town of David. God used even the actions of an oppressive ruler to further his plan that would be good news to all people. → Know that God wants to include and partner with you as a part of his plan.
- The **dynamic circumstance** of God's army of angels addressing those of an undesirable vocation is suggestive of the God-given value of shepherding, the way of Jesus' leadership. → Understand that God's and the world's values and ways can be different.
- Albeit initially terrified, the shepherds experienced the **glorious circumstances** of a visitation from an angel army— which broke into their night, an experience that transformed them into messengers who glorified God (see 2:20). → Likewise, God wants to reveal his glory to us and has commanded us to be messengers of the good news.

Discussion Prompts:

- What circumstances in your life are causing you to fear?
- Can you share a story of when God's work in your life has been through unexpected circumstances or when God has used something bad for his good purposes?
- Why do you think the message of Jesus is “good news” for all people?
- How does that message speak good news to you right now?
- What part of the good news do your family and friends most need to hear right now?
- What hesitations/excitements rise in you at the command to become a messenger?