



**Fall 2021 | 12.05.21**  
 To catch up on the full Sunday messages from this series, check out our YouTube channel.  
[\[YouTube Channel\]](#)

**INTRO & ICE BREAKER**

**Introduce yourself and answer this:** What is the Christmas tradition you are most looking forward to this year?

**RECAP & DISCUSSION**

In this week’s message, Pastor Chris talked about how in Luke Chapter 2, God shows us how we can rejoice in a weary season by doing the most basic things for others.

[\[Sermon Recap Video\]](#)

**Discussion:** Let’s spend a few moments sharing what stood out to us from the message on Sunday. What was new or unexpected? What impacted you the most? What did you talk about after service?

**DISCUSSION**

**Discussion:** Pastor Chris shared that as we approach Christmas, many of us may be weary for different reasons. He gave just a few examples, such as loss of loved ones, new responsibilities, anxiety about finances, guilt, shame or even exhaustion about the state of the world we live in. He also shared that the challenges we face are not unique to modern times. He explained that at the time Jesus was born, there was a brutal empire oppressing the most economically and disadvantaged people in their society.

- What are challenges that make you or people you know weary in this holiday season?
- Does the description of the world Jesus came into change your perspective of the current challenges in our times?

**HAVE SOMEONE READ**

**Have someone read:** Luke 2:5-14

**Discussion:** An angel of the Lord first announced the birth of the Messiah to shepherds, even though they were considered to have low societal status. These shepherds were afraid when the angel first appeared, but the angel told them to not “be” afraid.

- What is significant about the status and role of shepherds in this story?
- What is the difference between *feeling* afraid and *being* afraid?

**DISCUSSION**

**Discussion:** Pastor Chris highlighted that God chose to send an angel, rather than Himself, to appear to the shepherds, but “the glory of the Lord shone around them.” The angel told them they would see a sign, which would be a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. Pastor Chris explained that the loving act of Mary, caring for her son by wrapping him in swaddling cloths in a less than ideal situation, was an example of how we can show God’s love to others by doing basic things in life. In this way, the glory of the Lord can be shone around us, proclaiming to the world that God is here.

- What are some basic ways that you could shine the glory of the Lord in the lives of those around you?
- Who are the people in our society who are sometimes forgotten like the shepherds? How could you find ways to care for them?

**PRAY**

Life Group Leader - close out your time together with prayer. Are there any prayer requests or praise/celebrations? (Keep track in your Life Group notebook!)

**ANNOUNCE**

- **This is the last official week of Life Groups for the Fall 2021 Season! Have a Christmas party with your Life Group next week to celebrate the upcoming season!**
- **Be intentional to keep in touch over the holidays! We'll be back for the Winter 2022 Season the last week of January (Group Central aka Life Group sign ups start January 9th!)**