

Week Four

TELLING

“When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.”

Luke 2:17-18

- Take turns reading Luke 2:1-20

At the time of Jesus’ birth, shepherds were looked down upon, even rejected, due to their social class and occupation. God knew the hearts of this crew of lowly shepherds in Bethlehem – they loved God and knew about His promise of a Savior. Isn’t it amazing that God chose to announce the best news of all time to these shepherds with such a spectacular show of angels? Overjoyed with all they had witnessed; they ran into town and found the precious Lord Jesus just as the angels described. With the excitement and astonishment of a kid who has just opened a Christmas present he’s dreamed of for months, the shepherds told everyone around what

God revealed to them. God is and always has been in the business of using ordinary people to bring Him glory in extraordinary ways.

This was just the beginning of Jesus' story on earth. As he grew and began His ministry, He taught incredible lessons, performed miracles, and was a perfect example of God's love. Jesus also revealed God's ultimate plan by dying on the cross to pay for all of our sins. But three days later, He defeated death by coming back to life! Through His sacrifice, Jesus has provided a way for us to be reunited with God forever. This season, may we share this life-changing news of our Savior through what God has done in our lives!



DISCUSS

- Remember a Christmas when you received or experienced something truly exciting. Who was the first person you told about it? What did you tell them?
- Why do you think God chose the shepherds to share this amazing news?
- Who is one person (or more) you can share the good news of Jesus with this season?

PRAYER

- Maybe you're a parent or grandparent who has heard the Christmas story a hundred times, or maybe you're a kid or new believer who is just beginning to understand the true meaning of Christmas. No matter where you stand today, take time to pray and ask the Lord to fill your heart with joy like the shepherds felt that very first Christmas.
- Next, take turns praying specifically for those who came to mind in discussion question 3. May they witness the joy of Jesus this year!

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PRAISE

- Sing the beloved carol “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” as a family. Check out the lyric video called “Hark the Herald Angels Sing – Lyric Video” by Phil Wickham on YouTube.

“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

- From Phil Wickham’s album Christmas – The Acoustic Sessions

*Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Glory to the King*

*Christ by highest heaven adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of the Virgin’s womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell
Jesus our Immanuel
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Glory to the King*

*Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace
Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Risen with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Glory to the King
Glory to the King
Glory to the King*