



# Welcome!

**SERIES: ANCHORS IN ADVENT**  
*Today's Message: The Great Resignation*  
**Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor**

**PRAYER:** God of Christmas, we give you praise for the expectation we have of Christ in our lives. You will always show up at the appointed time in the assigned way to do the awesome thing. Alleluia, honor, and glory be to your name. You are at work during every moment of our lives. You are working for our good when we understand and when we do not, when we see you and when we do not. Give us faith and courage to join you in your work, regardless of our own. Thank you for gift of Jesus Christ. In his name, we pray. Amen.

**ICEBREAKER:** There are a lot of characters, real and imagined that are a part of our Christmas celebration. With which of the following do you identify most, and why? The Shepherds, The Grinch, The Wise Men, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, Mary, Joseph, or Frosty the Snowman?

**INTRODUCTION:** Heaven responds with praise at the announcement of the birth of Christ to the shepherds. The shepherds then resign from their present occupation with the sheep to locate and worship the new born King. They adopt a new job once they find him, leaving to proclaim the good news of what God has done. Joy and proclamation of promised salvation dominate this account. How might we resign from lesser pursuits in our lives to adopt greater occupations that empower us to fulfill the mandates of God's kingdom? That's the call and that's the challenge.

**SCRIPTURE:** Read Luke 2:8-18

## **DISCUSSION:**

1. What stood out in today's message? What's one thing you learned? What questions came to mind as you listened to the message today?
2. What message did the angel deliver to the shepherds? What does it mean that Jesus was announced as "a Savior, who is Christ the Lord?" In what ways is Jesus Savior, Christ, and Lord?
3. What sign did the angel give the shepherds to indicate where they would find the Christ child? What appeared before the shepherds while receiving the announcement about Jesus' birth (verses 13-14)? Is it significant that the angels gave praise to God as part of this announcement? Why or why not?
4. When you see God moving in your life or the lives of those around you, do you respond with praise to God? How did the shepherds respond to the announcement that the angels made to them about Jesus' birth (verses 15-20)?

THE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH  
**GROW | PRAY | SERVE**



**WWW.MYSPBC.ORG • 804.643.4000**

# Welcome!

**SERIES: ANCHORS IN ADVENT**

*Today's Message: The Great Resignation*

*Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor*

5. Is it important that the shepherds went with haste? What does their response say about the value they placed on the announcement of Jesus' birth into the world? What did the shepherds do after they had seen Jesus? Are you excited to share the story of Jesus with those you interact with in your daily life? What things prevent you from telling others about Jesus?

**CHALLENGE:** As we prepare to celebrate Christmas again this year, use the story of the glory of God coming into the lives of average shepherds at night to remind you that Jesus came to have a relationship with all people and shows up when we least expect it.

**SERVE:** Commit to telling others about the way God is working in your life and about the praise and glory that you are giving to God as a result.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at [www.myspbc.org](http://www.myspbc.org). You can also “find, follow and like” our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/myspbc](http://www.facebook.com/myspbc). Turn on your notifications.

**CELEBRATIONS:** Take this time to share praise reports (e.g. answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

**PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAYER:** Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.

THE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH  
**GROW | PRAY | SERVE**



**WWW.MYSPBC.ORG • 804.643.4000**

# Welcome!

SERIES: ANCHORS IN ADVENT  
Today's Message: The Great Resignation  
Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

## We Care!

A large, solid red heart is positioned behind the text 'We Care!'.

NOTICE: PLEASE BE PATIENT AS WE GRADUALLY REOPEN OUR CAMPUSES IN THE SAFEST MANNER POSSIBLE. As a small group leader, we depend on you to show members that we care. Here's a list of resources to help you.

FOR PRAYER:

CALL: 804.463.2472

EMAIL: [prayer@myspbc.org](mailto:prayer@myspbc.org).

FOR COUNSELING:

CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: [Barnabas@myspbc.org](mailto:Barnabas@myspbc.org)

TO REQUEST A HOSPITAL VISIT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (For Emergencies)

EMAIL: [ecare@myspbc.org](mailto:ecare@myspbc.org).

TO REQUEST FUNERAL SUPPORT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (Pastor On Call)

EMAIL: [ecare@myspbc.org](mailto:ecare@myspbc.org).

TO FIND A SUPPORT GROUP:

CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: [Barnabas@myspbc.org](mailto:Barnabas@myspbc.org).

TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

CALL: 804.643.4000

EMAIL: [emergencyassistance@myspbc.org](mailto:emergencyassistance@myspbc.org).

TO CONTACT MY LIFE STAGE PASTOR:

CALL: 804.643.4000 and Press 1 for the Dial By Name Directory

EMAIL:

Imagination (0-10): Vernita Williams: [Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org](mailto:Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org)

SMB (11-19): Martina Jones-Smith: [Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org](mailto:Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org)

Dreamchasers (20-29): Juan Shackelford: [juan.shackelford@myspbc.org](mailto:juan.shackelford@myspbc.org)

Aspire (30-39): Lance Watson, Jr.: [lance.watsonjr@myspbc.org](mailto:lance.watsonjr@myspbc.org)

Fusion (40-49): Michelle Townsend: [michelle.townsend@myspbc.org](mailto:michelle.townsend@myspbc.org)

Encore (50-59): Jamie Duncan: [Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org](mailto:Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org)

Prime Time (60-69): Maceo Freeman: [maceo.freeman@myspbc.org](mailto:maceo.freeman@myspbc.org)

Refiners (70+): Roscoe Jones: [roscoe.jones@myspbc.org](mailto:roscoe.jones@myspbc.org)

---

*GPS is a study guide based on the weekend message. The purpose of this guide is to assist small groups in study.  
Previous GPS Guides are available online at [www.myspbc.org](http://www.myspbc.org).*