When Joy Goes Viral
THE
I. The Birth is the News (v.1–7)
THE
II. The Announcement to the (v.8–14)
THE
III. The Response of Witnesses (v.15–20)
NOTES:

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Small Group Questions

- 1. When you think about the Christmas story, what part of Jesus' humble birth stands out most to you—and why do you think God chose such simple surroundings for the arrival of the King?
- **2.** How does seeing God's sovereignty in the census, the journey to Bethlehem, and the timing of Christ's birth help you trust His plans in your own life?
- **3.** The birth of Jesus fulfilled promises made over thousands of years. Which Old Testament promise or prophecy about the Messiah encourages your faith the most?
- **4.** Why do you think God chose shepherds—the overlooked, ordinary, and marginalized—to receive the announcement first? What does that teach us about God's heart?
- **5.** The angel said the news was for "all people." Who are some people in your life who might feel like the good news is *not* for them? Why might they feel that way?
- **6.** The shepherds responded to the message immediately ("with haste"). What keeps us from responding quickly to God's promptings today?
- 7. The shepherds shared what they had seen and heard. In your own experience, what makes sharing Jesus with others difficult? What helps you share more boldly?
- **8.** Mary "treasured up and pondered" these things in her heart. What spiritual practices help you pause, reflect, and treasure what God is doing in your life?
- **9.** Joy "went viral" through the shepherds as they praised God and told others. How has someone else's joy or testimony impacted your faith recently?
- **10.** Who is one person God may be calling you to share the good news with this Christmas? What is one practical step you can take this week?