



-- Christmas 2025 --
Why would God use humble shepherds?
December 7, 2025

Luke 2:8–20 (ESV)

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” ¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.

²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

James 4:10

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Matthew 26:39

*And going a little farther **he fell on his face and prayed**, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.”*

Matthew 23:11–12

The greatest among you shall be your servant.

¹²*Whoever exalts himself will be **humbled**, and whoever **humbles** himself will be exalted.*

***“Humility recognizes Christ is Lord.
Pride sees myself in charge!”***

1. The shepherds were exalted to a high calling!

1) to hear the good news of great joy (Luke 2:10-12)

2) to go to see Jesus (Luke 2:12-15)

3) to make this known to Mary & Joseph (Luke 2:16-19)

4) to glorify and praise God! (Luke 2:20)

2. Who were these shepherds?

→ lowly, outdoor workers, no showers, worn clothes

→ They were not thought of as wise, or scribes, or debaters of this age. Not culturally powerful, No noble birth. Culturally weak. Not highly esteemed.

(1 Corinthians 1:20-29)

3. But, were the shepherds humble?

“Humility recognizes Christ is Lord. Pride sees myself in charge!”

1) they left everything to respond to God’s revelation! – in haste!

2) they didn’t argue or alter His plan

3) they were focused on Jesus all the way through the story.

>> Humility is not necessarily determined by prosperity or poverty.

--- Revelation Demands Response ---

1. How do the shepherds help me embrace humility?

Humbling walking with Him in responsiveness and love...is His desire!

Galatians 5:25; Greatest Commandment

Hebrews 4:7 “Today if you hear His voice, don’t harden your hearts”

2. Why would God “exalt the humble”?

Why would God use lowly shepherds to see, hear, announce, and praise the Christ?

They illustrate humble walking with Him in responsiveness!

Matthew 23:11-12; James 4:10

Galatians 5:25; Psalm 139, Greatest Commandment, Psalm 23

Application questions on the back →

--- *Why would God use humble shepherds!* ---

December 7, 2025

SUNDAY after church...

Think through your morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give! 2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received! 3) List songs or lyrics that touched your heart.

MONDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTED** Consider the exalted calling God gave the humble shepherds. Write out other ways that God could have announced the birth of Jesus. From a worldly perspective, how would you have done it. **PRAY:** Pray over your observations and applications.

TUESDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** How do we see humility in the shepherds? Write out why it doesn't make much sense to announce the birth of the Messiah through ordinary shepherds. How do you see godly humility in their live in this narrative. **Pray:** Pray over your applications.

WEDNESDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** Write out how the shepherds help you embrace humility? **Pray:** Pray over your applications.

THURSDAY and FRIDAY

READ Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** From the final point on the handout, write out why would God exalt the humble. **Pray:** Pray over your applications.

SATURDAY

Prepare your heart for Sunday's gathering by being ready to fully engage in the worship.