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SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1 Share one thing that stood out to you in this week's sermon and why?
- 2 If you were the shepherds, How would you have responded to the Angel's announcement?
- 3 Why do you think God made such an important announcement to a lowly group of shepherds? What does this say about the priorities of God versus the priorities of men?
- 4 Read Matthew 11: 29-30 in your notes. What does this look like for you? Go around the group and share.
- 5 How can we be praying for you this week?





Christmas...Time...

Pastor Jeremy McGarity

"That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. 'Don't be afraid!' he said. 'I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people.

The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: you will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.'

Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

LUKE 2:8-14 (NLT)

"When the right <u>time</u> came, the <u>time</u> God decided on, he sent his Son, born of a woman... so he could adopt us as his very own children."

GALATIANS 4:4-5 (LB)

"Everything that happens in this world happens at the <u>time</u> God chooses."

ECCLESIASTES 3:1 (GNT)

CHRISTMAS IS ...

(Luke 2: The First Christmas)

1 TIME TO <u>RELEASE</u> MY FEAR

"An angel appeared to the shepherds... and they were terrified. But the angel said '<u>Do not be afraid!</u>"

LUKE 2:9-10A (GW)

2 TIME TO RENEW MY FAITH

"... I bring you the <u>most joyful news</u> ever announced, and it is for everyone!"

LUKE 2:10B (LB)

(Jesus) "I have come that you might have LIFE, and <u>have it</u> to the full!"

JOHN 10:10 (NIV)

3 TIME TO <u>RECEIVE</u> FORGIVENESS

"Today in the town of David a <u>Savior has been born for you</u>; he is the Messiah, the Lord!"

LUKE 2:11 (NIV)

"Jesus said, 'For God loved this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that anyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God didn't send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it!"

JOHN 3:16-17 (LB)

4 TIME TO <u>REBUILD</u> RELATIONSHIPS

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth <u>peace, goodwill</u> toward men."

LUKE 2:14 (KJV)

"If we are living in the light of God's presence, just as Christ does, then we have wonderful fellowship and joy with each other..."

1 JOHN 1:7 (LB)

"All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and him, and then called us to settle our relationships with each other."

2 CORINTHIANS 5:18 (MSG)

"Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

MATTHEW 11:29-30 (MSG)

Christmas is time for you to meet Christ:

"...<u>It is time for you to turn to me</u>, your Lord, and I will come and pour out blessings upon you."

HOSEA 10:12 (GNT)

NLT | NEW LIVING TRANSLATION, LB | LIVING BIBLE TRANSLATION GNT | GOOD NEWS TRANSLATION, GW | GOD'S WORD TRANSLATION, NIV | NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION, KJV | KING JAMES VERSION, MSG | THE MESSAGE