

SONGS OF THE SAVIOR
When God Calls - A Shepherd's Faith
Week 1 Advent December 3, 2023
Pastor Mike Popovich

Advent means 'coming' or 'arrival'.

We have in the Bible God telling us who the Messiah is.

The Messiah is a Jewish man named Jesus, son of Mary and Joseph, son of God.

The shepherds were questioning what they had seen that night.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." Luke 2:8-14 NIV

Here's an angel of the Lord appearing from nowhere, so... maybe we should listen.

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 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. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. Luke 2:15-20 NIV

What was their reaction to what they found in that manger?

They began to spread the word about baby Jesus and did so with such enthusiasm that those who heard are amazed!

WHEN GOD CALLS, LISTEN

...the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people." Luke 2:10 NIV

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. Matthew 9:9 NIV

WHEN GOD CALLS, GO

If you hear God speak to you and you have the peace of head and heart that it was Him, then "It's time to GO!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off... Luke 2:15-16a NIV

There's another story in the New Testament where God spoke and a person was faced with a 'get up and go' decision.

In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord," he answered. The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying... Then Ananias went to the house and entered it Acts 9:10-11 & 17a NIV

WHEN GOD CALLS, SPEAK UP

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 NIV

THE FAITHFUL SHEPHERDS

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. Luke 2:20 NIV

Listen to God

Go when He calls

Tell people about Jesus