



Resources

- Watch or listen to Sunday's sermon: abfboone.com/sermons
- Find Life Group resources: abfboone.org/groups/resources

Luke 2:8-20

8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And 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!"

15 When 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." 16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. 17 And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. 18 And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Sermon Outline:

- I. The Announcement to the Shepherds (8-14)
- II. The Response of the Shepherds (15-17)
- III. The Responses to the Good News of Great Joy (18-20)

Life Group Leader Notes:





- As unlikely as they were, the shepherds in the fields received the announcement about Savior's birth. What does this tell us about God's kingdom? What does it tell us about this *good news*?

- The shepherds were afraid but their fear turned into joy at the angel's message. How does the birth of Christ change us from being fearful of God to making peace and having joy?

- The angel said "[f]or **unto you** is born this day...a Savior..." Who has Christ come to save? Who will receive His peace?

- Pastor Scott showed us the three responses to the good news: The people's response, Mary's response, and the shepherd's response. Are there people in your life who have responded to the good news in these ways? How can we come alongside them this week to strengthen their faith by the power of the Spirit?

- What does the good news of the birth of Christ mean to you as you face this week? Does this good news change you?

- Pastor Scott said that the shepherds were the first evangelists. God put his message on the lips of the lowest and most despised members of society. Do you ever feel unworthy or unqualified to proclaim the gospel or teach the Bible? Perhaps your reputation or lack of training gets in the way. How does this text confront those feelings? Is there anyone in your life that needs to hear the good news of Jesus this week (a family member, a child, a neighbor)? Make a plan to share the good news this week and report on it at life group next week.

