

Open It

What's the most disgusting task you've ever done? What would it be like to make a career of it? How might you be received at a Christmas party when you tell people what you do for a living?

Consider It

Shepherding was a necessary, but dirty and undesirable occupation at the time of Jesus' birth. Why do you think the first announcement came to shepherds?

Where and when were the shepherds visited by angels (2:1-8)?

How did the shepherds react (2:9)?

What was the message of good news (2:10-11)?

How did the angels invite the shepherds to "come and see" for themselves (2:12)?

How did the shepherds respond (2:15)? What objections might have been raised by their peers as they considered what to do?

What should we learn from the example of the shepherds (2:17-20)? How might we follow their example?

We see in the passage how the shepherds rush off to share the good news and then how others respond with amazement. What is the responsibility of those "discover" the good news about Jesus?

Live It

Come and See! What aspect of Luke's account stirs your heart? How does enlarge your love for God?

Go and Tell! What can you do to invite friends and family to experience of the wonder of Christmas?

Who will you invite to join you for our Christmas Eve Service?

The Advent of the Lamb of God
"Come and See"
Luke 2:1-20
Sunday, December 22, 2019

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register. ⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. ⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." ¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ 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 2:1-20 (NIV)

Introduction: Shepherds and Lambs

We Should Respond to the Advent of Christ By

Sermon Proposition

Bethlehem's Shepherds Teach Us How to Respond to the Advent of the Lamb of God.

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