



Shelby Christian Church

CHRISTMAS - HOLY MOMENTS: SHEPHERDS: NO MORE HESITATION

LUKE 2:8-18 * 12/14/2025

After hearing the Good News, the shepherds did not hesitate to find the New Born King.

What experiences, images, and ideas come to mind when you think about Christmas?

Christmas can be a frustrating and stressful time of year for many. Why do you think that is? Do you sometimes feel that way about Christmas?

What distracts you from worshiping Christ during the holidays?

What is one piece of unexpected good news you have received, and how did you react?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 2:8-12.

What is symbolic about God announcing Jesus' birth to some of the lowliest members of society?

Why do you think this is the first thing the angel said was "Do not be afraid"? What fears might the shepherds (or we) have that this news addresses? What did the angel reveal about Jesus' uniqueness?

"Good news of great joy that will be for all the people" (v. 10): How does this emphasize the universal nature of the gospel, breaking down social barriers like those the shepherds faced?

What does it mean for Jesus to be the Savior (saving us from sin and brokenness), the Christ (Messiah), and the Lord (Master)?

Of the truths about Jesus in these verses, which moves you to worship, and why? You will find a baby wrapped in clothes and lying in a manger" (v. 12): This sign points to humility and low status. What does this tell us about God's nature and how He chose to enter the world?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 2:13-15.

What is the gospel message in verses 11-14?

What do we learn about God's love for us through the shepherds' encounter with the angels?

The angels respond with praise. What is the nature of the "peace" mentioned here? How does it differ from the world's idea of peace?

Have someone read Matthew 2:3-5. How did the shepherds' reaction to the news of the Messiah's arrival compare to the religious leaders' reaction? What is significant about this contrast?

What keeps us from embracing the message of Jesus with the same abandonment as the shepherds? How can we cultivate a similar "come and see" attitude in our faith?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 2:16-20.

The sign was confirmed exactly as the angel had said. When have you experienced confirmation of God's word in your own life?

"They spread the word" (v. 17): The shepherds became the first evangelists, sharing their joy and experience. What hinders us from sharing the "good news" in our daily lives?

"All who heard it were amazed" (v. 18): Amazement was a common reaction. How does the Christmas story evoke a sense of wonder in you?

How has encountering Christ changed your identity? If you are a Christian, what is your ultimate purpose in life?

How can we be more intentional about worshiping God for the birth of Jesus with our family, Christian friends, and non-Christian friends?

APPLICATION

What things in your life are distracting you from delighting in Christ? How might you need to reevaluate your relationship with those things?

What are some ways to keep Jesus' sacrificial work which began with His birth—central to your thinking as you go about your week?

Why is Jesus' birth good news for "all the people"? What is our church doing to help spread the news around the world? How are you helping, or how can you get involved?

PRAYER