

Discussion Guide: November 30, 2025

Series: *Christ-mess: Finding Hope in a Dark World*

Message: *A Hope for True Peace*

Kyle Dwyer

Take Home Truth: Because of Jesus, you can have true peace this Christmas - and forever.

Focus Passage: Luke 2:8–16 (CSB)

8 In the same region, shepherds were staying out in the fields and keeping watch at night over their flock. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: 11 Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be the sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped tightly in cloth and lying in a manger.”

13 Suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:

14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace on earth to people he favors!”

15 When the angels had left them and returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go straight to Bethlehem and see what has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

16 They hurried off and found both Mary and Joseph, and the baby who was lying in the manger.

Peace: A state of completeness (Hebrew: *shalom*); the absence of hostility; being secure, at rest, and in harmony with God.

Discussion Questions

1. Thinking about the stillness of the night outside Bethlehem, the shepherd’s hearts may have been filled with worries, hopelessness, and no peace. As you come into the Christmas season, what is causing you to feel hopeless? What is robbing you of peace?

2. The angel who announced Jesus’ birth to the shepherds tells us that this baby was born a Savior, and that He would bring peace on earth. Jesus offers us a peace that we can’t earn or buy: peace with God, because of His sacrificial death for us. What does it mean for you to have peace with God? Why do you think we need this peace more than anything else?

3. When we trust in Jesus, we have peace with God that produces peace from God in our lives. The kind of peace that God offers with Jesus is one that is more than just absence of conflict. It is a true *shalom* - a state of completeness, security, and rest. How does your relationship with Jesus bring you that rest? What does it look like to live out of that rest?

4. When we know that we are at peace with God, we can learn to trust His wise actions in our lives. How does knowing that God is not against you, but for you, bring you peace as you learn to trust Him?

Time of Prayer:

Take time to pray using these prompts: 1) that God would help you understand more and more what kind of peace He has purchased for you through His Son, Jesus. 2) That God would help you to live in the reality of that peace day by day. 3) That God would place one person on your heart who needs to hear the good news of peace this Christmas season.