

JESUS, SHEPHERDS, AND ANGELS: A SAVIOR IS BORN

Luke 2:1-20

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- What gives you hope this Christmas?
- Which character in the Christmas story resonates most with you this year? Why?

Study again the familiar story that gives us our Christmas nativity scenes. Recall the details, see God's intentional acts, and hear again the important messages Luke shares in his account of Jesus' birth. Find comfort and renewed hope as you celebrate the birth of our Savior and return to daily life anticipating the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Listen: Jesus, Shepherds, and Angels: A Savior is Born

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- In segment 1, hosts Darrell Delaney and Scott Hoezee discuss how we're often focused in the wrong direction and how Luke redirects our focus from the people society said were powerful and important (Caesar Augustus and Quirinius) to the lowly baby born in a manger. Where is your attention focused today? How can you be intentional about watching God at work?
- Who are the shepherds, the disadvantaged, the people on the fringes of our society?
- Why is it beneficial for us to remember that the shepherds returned to shepherding after seeing baby Jesus? What does this mean for us in our daily lives?
- God makes room for the shepherds. God makes room for us. God notices shepherds, God notices you. Reflect on Darrell's comment from segment 3: "God says, 'I see you;' God says, 'I am paying attention to you;' God says, 'I know that sometimes you struggle with sin and problems and difficulties, but I am actually working out salvation for you and I am giving you a gift in my Son." What does it mean to you that God notices and makes room for you?

Related Passages

- Isaiah 53
- Isaiah 7:13-17
- Matthew 1:22-23

Conclusion

Like the shepherds, we must all return to our daily lives after Christmas. Will you return to your daily life the same or changed this Christmas? How? Have you experienced renewed hope? How will you keep talking about the good news of Immanuel, God with us as you return to your daily life? Close your time of reflection in prayer, giving thanks for the opportunity to remember again the Christmas story of Jesus Christ, the Savior born to us.

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