

December 24 | Sunday

Advent: Good News with Great Joy

Read [Luke 2:1-20](#)



25 | Mon – Lowest rung on the ladder | Read [Luke 2:8](#)

The shepherds were at work that night, doing their job like normal. They didn't just work the day shift, however. They had to live in the field and spend their nights protecting the sheep from predators. They knew that others looked down on them because being a shepherd was one of the lowest jobs in the community. Yet they were faithful night after night, caring for those unappreciative sheep. What about you? When you have an undesirable responsibility, are you faithful to do your best anyway? God noticed them and He sees you too!

26 | Tue – Aliens from outer space | Read [Luke 2:9](#)

Imagine you are walking the dog in a secluded area when suddenly the night sky lights up and an alien spaceship lands in front of you. Would you be afraid? That might give you an idea of how the shepherds felt when the angel of the Lord appeared to them. Can something be very good but still terrify you? If meeting an angel inspires that kind of fear, doesn't it make sense that God needed to come to earth as a baby for people to look Him in the face?

27 | Wed – Antidote to fear | Read [Luke 2:10](#)

The angel's first words were "Don't be afraid!" When someone tells you to *stop* being afraid, does that work? Usually not. What will often neutralize fear is hearing good news, especially the kind that fills your heart with a burst of joy. The kind of fear that torments you **cannot** co-exist with joy. What good news do you need to hear to dissolve your fears? Look in the scriptures...you just might find it there.

28 | Thu – Looking for Jesus | Read [Luke 2:11-14](#)

Forget the five o'clock news. This was breaking news and the shepherds were the first to hear it, good news that generations of people had been waiting for: "The Savior has been born... right here... today! This is how you will know when you have found Him." Do you recognize Jesus when you see him? In other people, in your life's circumstances, in the blessings he provides and the difficulties he allows? Be on the lookout for him today.

29 | Fri – See for yourself | Read [Luke 2:15-16](#)

It is one thing to believe what you have heard. It is quite another to do something about it. The shepherds heard the amazing news and they believed it enough to go see for themselves. Years later, Jesus would say, "...seek and you will find..." (Matt. 7:7). What great joy comes when you find what you have been searching for! What do you need to do today about what you believe?

30 | Sat – Too good to keep quiet | Read [Luke 2:17-20](#)

People might keep good news to themselves, as if sharing it with anyone else will diminish the joy. But the shepherds did not. They told everyone in town and Luke says the people were amazed by what they heard. Was it because God chose such poor men to be the first to see the Promised One or because they saw the answer to centuries-old promises? Whatever the reason, it is a reminder - you don't have to be wealthy, well known, successful, talented or a seasoned speaker to tell someone that Jesus has come to save us all. Who will you tell?