



Nativity: The Journey to Christmas

Announcements

- **101 Starting Point** – Sunday, January 5th, 5:00 pm at all campuses. Starting Point is the first step toward getting involved at Church of the King by learning about the vision and mission of the church. Register at www.churchoftheking.com/register

Warm-up

What is one of your favorite Christmas traditions? Why?

In our discussion today we are going to look at the Christmas story, and experience how the shepherds, who went to visit baby Jesus can encourage us in our faith.

Word and Application

Read Hebrews 11:1. What do you think faith means to most people?

Do you find it challenging or easy to believe in what is not seen? Why?

Read Luke 2:8-20. In Biblical times, shepherds were normal people who were often looked down upon because of their profession. It was these social outcasts who were the first people to whom God chose to reveal the birth of his son Jesus.

Why do you think God decided to reveal his son to common shepherds, as opposed to revealing him to religious or governmental leaders?

How does it make you feel to know God chose ordinary people to be the first ones to see Jesus and to be able to share the good news of the coming of the savior?

Read Isaiah 30:21. God spoke to the shepherds through an angel. This is one of the ways God speaks to us today. He can also speak to us while we are praying, while reading the Bible and through other godly people. How do you respond when you think God is speaking to you?

When God speaks to us we should respond to Him in faith.

Read Luke 2:15-16 to see how the shepherds responded to God speaking.

The shepherds responded in faith and went in obedience to what God was telling them. When we respond to God in faith He will direct us on what steps we need to take to fulfill our God-given purpose.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:14. Our encounter with Christ should compel us to share the Good News with others. How can you play a part, like the shepherds, in sharing the Good News with others?

Jesus took action by coming to earth. His willingness to do so should convince us to put our faith into action. What is God asking you to respond to him about today (e.g., mend a relationship, reach out to someone in need, respond to give your life to Christ, put away habits that are hurting you, etc.)?

Prayer

Pray for each person to be able to respond to God in faith during this Christmas season. Also, take time to ask for specific prayer requests from those in your small group.