

When You Wonder Who to Invite to Christmas

Luke 2:1-20

God sovereignly prepares the nursery for his son's birth (1-7)

God can use anyone and anything to accomplish his plans.

A pagan ruler

A government decree

Two teenagers

An 80-mile journey while eight months pregnant

A less than desirable birthing room

God does not come to the proud and powerful, but to the poor and powerless.

The good news of salvation comes to those who need it most (8-14)

Shepherds were typically uneducated, unskilled, and considered dishonest. They were perpetually unclean since their task caused them to work on the Sabbath and kept them from the temple for weeks at a time. At this time, the only people lower than shepherds were lepers.

The fact that the message came to the shepherds first reminds us that God comes to the needy, the poor in spirit.

The angels brought a message of:

Joy – The birth of Jesus is a cause for celebration.

Hope – Jesus saves us from our sins.

Peace – Jesus makes reconciliation possible.

Those who truly experience grace cannot keep it to themselves (15-20)

The shepherds wasted no time seeking for Jesus.

Meeting Jesus transformed the shepherds from outcasts to passionate evangelists.

Good news is shared best by those who need it most.