



Keeping Christmas Like the Shepherds: “Mission and Celebration”

Life Group Study, Week of December 11, 2022

Engage.

From the first three messages in the current series, what new thoughts about what it means to keep Christmas have been developing in your mind and heart?

Look at the Book. Read Luke 1-20

If you had the opportunity to hear the message on Sunday, was there a scripture, a thought or an impression that moved you personally? Did you have any questions?

Is it essential that we accept the birth of Jesus Christ as a matter of historical fact? Why or why not?

Why was it essential that, of all the cities of the world, Jesus was born in Bethlehem? See Micah 5:2.

What impresses you most in verses 1-7? Why?

In ancient Israel, shepherds were among the lowliest of people. What significance is there in the fact that an angel of the Lord appeared first to them to announce the birth of the Savior?

The angel army said, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” Who are “those with whom God is pleased”? Compare Hebrews 11:6.

In what two ways did the shepherds respond to their experience of seeing the infant Jesus with their own eyes?

Apply:

What insights into “keeping Christmas” can we gain from the response of the shepherds?

In what specific ways might following their example alter the priorities we pursue during the month of December and beyond? What prevents us from making needed changes?

How will you personally respond?

Prayer: