

WEEK 3: JESUS AND THE SHEPHERDS

CHRISTMAS

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. Luke 2:20

Luke 2:8-20

Last week, we learned about the birth of Jesus and the impact it had on all of **humanity** as our Savior came to Earth. The news of the Savior's birth would **quickly** spread throughout the land, bringing joy and hope to those who had been waiting for their Messiah.

On the night He was born, there were shepherds watching over their sheep nearby. An **angel** appeared to them and shared the good news of the birth of Jesus, **saying** it would "*bring great joy for all the people*" (Luke 2:10). All of a sudden, dozens of angels joined in and sang praises to God. "*Glory to God in highest heaven and peace on earth to those with whom **God** is pleased*" (Luke 2:14). The angels returned to heaven and the **shepherds** decided to travel to Bethlehem to visit Jesus.

The shepherds were so overjoyed with what they had seen and the news that had been delivered to them, that they went on to share the news with everyone they **encountered**. They had joy because they had heard the good news of Jesus. He had been born to save them. With that joy, the shepherds chose to worship God and share Him with others, bringing **glory** and honor to God and sharing His love with those around them.

We can **experience** the same joy the shepherds felt when we realize that Jesus was born to be our Savior. When you feel joy and gratefulness over the things God has done for you, respond by praising and **thanking** Him. This is called worship when we respond to the goodness of God through **joy**, praise and thanksgiving.

Questions to think about:

1. How do you feel when you remember the things God has done for you?
2. How can you show God you are grateful?
3. How do you like to worship God?

