

God's Good News - Witness His Majesty
Luke 2:8-20
12-19-21

God's majesty is His goodness and greatness.

Exodus 33:17-19 – *"And the Lord said to Moses, 'This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.' Moses said, 'Please show me your glory.' And he said, 'I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD...'"*

Psalms 138:6 – *"Though the LORD is exalted, He looks kindly on the lowly..."*

Ephesians 4:8 – *"...When He ascended on high, He took many captives and gave gifts to His people."*

I. Receive Forgiveness

Luke 2:8-12 – *"And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.'"*

John 1:12 – *"But to all who did receive Him, who believed in his name, He gave the right to become children of God."*

Acts 10:43 – *"All who believe in Jesus' name will be forgiven of their sins through His name."*

2 Corinthians 5:18 – *"...God...through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation."*

II. Receive God's Joy

Luke 2:10 – *"And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.'"*

John 15:11 – *"Jesus said, These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you...to the fullest."*

Proverbs 17:22 – *"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."*

III. Receive God's Peace

Luke 2:13-14 – *"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!'"*

Ephesians 2:14 – *"For He himself is our peace..."*

Three thieves of peace:

1. Guilt

"All religions are the same: religion is basically guilt with different holidays."
- Cathy Ladman (Comedian)

2 Corinthians 7:10 (CEV) – *"When God makes you feel sorry enough to turn to Him and be saved, you don't have anything to feel bad about. But when this world (anything but the real God) makes you feel sorry, it can cause your death."*

2. Grief

3. Grudges

Growing Deeper This Week

1. Read Luke 2:8-20.
2. What were the shepherds doing before an angel appeared?
3. What kind of a night was it when the shepherds saw the angel of the Lord?
4. Were the shepherds frightened? Why? What is a bad or crippling fear you have had over the years? How does this scene reveal the value of the Fear of the Lord? (Exodus 20:20, Proverbs 9:10, Psalm 112:1, 1 John 4:18)
5. What did the angel tell them?
6. Who joined the angel after the message was given to the shepherds and why? (Matthew 11:27, John 5:23)
7. Why do you think the angels sang in front of the shepherds? (Psalm 68:3 and Ephesians 5:19)
8. Why do you think the shepherds were selected to visit Jesus? Is it only because shepherds know a pure lamb? (1 Corinthians 1:27-29)
9. Praise Him for choosing to love and use us this Christmas season.