

TAKE HOME SHEET



Message: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Series: Joy to the World
Speaker: Rusty Coram
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⁸ That night some shepherds were in the fields outside the village, guarding their flocks of sheep. ⁹ Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terribly frightened, ¹⁰ but the angel reassured them. 'Don't be afraid!' he said. 'I bring you good news of great joy for everyone!' ¹¹ The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born tonight in Bethlehem, the city of David! ¹² And this is how you will recognize him: You will find a baby lying in a manger, wrapped snugly in strips of cloth!' ¹³ Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God: ¹⁴ 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to all whom God favors.' ¹⁵ When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, 'Come on, let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this wonderful thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.' ¹⁶ They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. ¹⁷ After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. ¹⁸ All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, ¹⁹ but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. ²⁰ The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.

Luke 2:8-20 (NLT)

What do you think might have happened to the shepherds after the initial rush of the evening's events wore off?

Have you ever had a significant spiritual experience (probably not an angel choir!) that really caught your attention and made you consider God in a new way?

How do you think the shepherd's lives were different after being met by the angels and seeing Jesus, Mary and Joseph?

How do you think the rest of the village responded when the shepherds told them what happened? How might you have reacted to their story?

Read verse 19 again and see what Mary did with the memory of the shepherd's visit.

Our lives are bombarded with new events and information. Holding on to the most important ones can be a challenge, but is necessary for us to become and remain grounded in our faith. What can you do this week to make time for remembering God and thinking about Him and His promises often?