



Joy

A KIDS
CHRISTMAS
SERIES



JOY

LUKE 2:8-14



START WITH PRAYER



PRESS PLAY

Play “Joy” (Luke 2:8-14) from the Seeds of Christmas album or DVD. Sing along as a family to help get these verses planted deep in your hearts.

(👐👐 A hand motion video is available for this song.)

TODAY IN THE TOWN OF DAVID A SAVIOR
HAS BEEN BORN TO YOU; HE IS THE MESSIAH, THE LORD.
THIS WILL BE A SIGN TO YOU: YOU WILL FIND A BABY
WRAPPED IN CLOTHS AND LYING IN A MANGER.

LUKE 2:11-12

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 2:8-14:

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.”

TALK ABOUT IT

The three greatest days since creation have to be the day that Jesus born, His death on the cross and His powerful resurrection from the grave! Today we are going to talk about the day Jesus was born.

I love Christmas because I love celebrating Jesus! It is amazing that Jesus came to earth the same way we did. He did not ride down on clouds and He did not float down from heaven—He was born as a baby.

This was such an amazing night; Jesus had the attention of all of heaven. Can you imagine how excited the angels were the night

Jesus came to earth on the greatest mission of all time?

Think about what it was like to be a shepherd in Jesus' day. They would spend most nights outside watching over their flocks. I imagine that most days were uneventful. Lots of sitting with a couple of intense moments from time-to-time when they needed to protect their flock from an unwanted intruder.

This was no ordinary night for the shepherds! The Bible tells us that 'an angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them...' The angel came to tell them that the Savior of the world had been born.

Why did God choose shepherds be the recipients of the greatest news ever? I mean, shepherds? Really? Why didn't He choose important religious people or rich educated people? Why tell the shepherds? We know that in those days shepherds were social outcasts, among the lowest members of society and were not people of influence.

I think there is a few reasons God picked the shepherds. Here are a couple of those reasons:

1. Jesus came to save the lost! If the good news is for the shepherds, it must be for everyone! We see the news of Jesus being shared with the social outcasts, not the religious elite. This reminds me of Mark 2:16-17 where it says, "When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the

righteous, but sinners.”

2. Humility. The religious leaders of the day seemed to love religion more than they loved God. In reading the Bible, I am led to believe they would have received the news with pride and not humility. On the other hand the shepherds must have felt humbled that God chose to share the good news with them. James 4:6 tells us that “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

When you think of Christmas, remember how God used the lowly shepherds to hear and share the greatest news—that a Savior had been born. Sharing the good news started with the shepherds and then was carried on by John the Baptist, Jesus, the disciples and then by believers in every generation. We now have the honor and privilege to love God, stay humble and share His Word.



SEEDS TREASURE

LOVE GOD, STAY HUMBLE, SHARE HIS WORD.



DISCUSSION

1. What are the three greatest days since creation?
2. Who should we be celebrating at Christmas?

3. Why was Jesus birth shared with the shepherds?

4. "God opposes the _____ but gives grace to the _____."



CLOSE IN PRAYER



AS YOU GO...

1. Pray as a family about who you can share the good news with this Christmas season.
2. Make one night this week 'shepherds night'. Make a 'shepherds dinner' and eat dinner 'shepherd style' (on the floor). Dress up like shepherds and have fun. Have everyone share how God has been generous to them.
3. Encourage each other to sing this song enough this week to be able to recite the verse word-for-word.

Today in the town of David

A SAVIOR

has been born to you;

He is the Messiah,

THE LORD.

This will be a sign to you:

You will find a baby

WRAPPED IN CLOTHS

and lying in a manger.

Luke 2:11-12