

Christmas: Finding Myself

Luke 2:8-20 and John 14:1-6

1 Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God[a]; believe also in me. 2 My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going."

5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

*6 Jesus answered, "**I am the way and the truth and the life.** No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:1-6*

An unexamined life is not worth living - Socrates

If you love me, keep my command. John 14:15

23 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift. Matthew 5:23-24

Prioritize your relationship with others before your relationship with good.

We can't have peace with Gods without reconciliation.

Introduce Prayer

Music

Sermon Part 2

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Luke 2:8-20 and John 14:6

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."*

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20 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 2:8-20

****Many of us learned about Christmas from the manger scene story.**

Bethlehem

Definitely less than 1000 people
Probably less than 300
About 5 miles from Jerusalem

Angels

Gabriel
Daniel 8:15-26, Daniel 9:21-27,
Luke 1:19, Luke 1:31

— One angel at first

God made it easy for them.

— A multitude of angels
There was no way not to believe.

Shepherds

In the Old Testament they were on the 'inside' but
by the time of Jesus, they were marginalized by the church (society)

Good news for all people

— even shepherds
— even you

A savior... he is the Messiah (Christ) the Lord.

*Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is **the** Messiah (Christ),
the Lord. Luke 2:11*

Christology - description of Jesus Christ