

## The Heart of the Matter

12. What message of “good news and great joy” does God have for you?

13. Like the shepherds initially, of what are you afraid? How do you need to trust God with your current circumstances?

14. In what ways do you need peace in your life right now? How will you go about finding it?

15. Just as the angels told the shepherds about the “good news”, who else do you need to tell? When will you talk with them?

## Praises and Prayer Requests:



# Life Group Study Guide

**Joy!**

**Finding Joy in a Hurting World**  
**Luke 2:8-14**

**For the Week of December 22, 2019**

### **Getting Started**

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?

2. What are some things that bring you great joy in life?

3. Who were the people that brought you the most joy in life growing up? What about now?

## Digging Deeper

4. From verse 8 how would you describe the life of a shepherd back in the time of Jesus' birth? What would be the perks? What would be the disadvantages?
5. Just as the angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds in verse 9, how have other individuals responded when angels have appeared in other passages? (Luke 1:11-18; Matthew 28:2-4; etc.)
6. In verse 10 why would the glory of the Lord bring great fear to these shepherds? (2 Chronicles 5:14, 7:1-3; Ezekiel 1:28, 44:4)
7. In verses 10-11 how would this be "good news of great joy" that the angels brought to the shepherds? What was so good and great about it?
8. In verse 12 how would the sign of the Christ child be different than perhaps the shepherds might have expected concerning the coming Messiah? Why was it important that the Messiah came into the world the way He did?
9. In verse 13 why was it necessary that a whole host of angels appeared with this first angel in communicating the coming of the Messiah to the shepherds?
10. In verse 14 what is the meaning of the message of praise that the host of angels proclaim? Why are these words so meaningful and comforting?
11. How would you describe what the shepherds encountered in verses 15-21? What was different about Mary's response to all this?