



The First Hearers of the Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

Who were shepherds in the first century biblical culture?

- Shepherds were social outcasts.
- Shepherds were religious outcasts.

Significant points about Bethlehem:

- Prophetic significance
- Imperial significance
- Livestock of Bethlehem

Angel's message: *"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."*

Lessons from the shepherds:

- They went.
- They told.
- They returned.

Other Scripture: Micah 5:1-2, 4

Further Study

Read: Luke 2:1-20 in your group or with at least one other person.

1. Have someone read it while everyone reads along.
2. Have someone else read it while everyone else listens.
3. Have someone recount the text from memory in their own words.

Discuss:

1. What does the passage reveal about God?
2. What does the passage reveal about humanity?

Act:

1. If this passage is from God, what should change about how you live?
2. Who needs to hear the truth of this Scripture that you can share it with this week? Identify a time this week when you might have the opportunity to share with them.