



Love All

Luke 2:8-20 |

want to dig deeper? OPC|M Devo: opcmilford.org/devo

RELATED PASSAGES

Philippians 2:6-8 | Isaiah 53:4-6 | John 1:14; 2:2; 17:4-5 | Romans 5:1 | 1 Cor. 1:26-31

SUMMARY

The reason for the joyous (and I think we can assume loud!) announcement the angels surprised the shepherds with is just this: “Good News.”

Good news about what? Good news precisely about the reality that God, in His love, has accomplished all that is needed to restore peace between himself and us.

But what we can easily read past is that God has chosen the wrong people to be the first to hear his cosmically good news (at least according to our world’s standards).

The God of the universe, the Creator, and true King chose... shepherds to be the first to hear the Gospel. Shepherds in that day were the lowest of low on the totem pole of cultural power and prestige. Unlike farmers, they were often wage-earners - paid to watch the sheep of others. And they did their work outside of the powerful/prestigious places - prohibited from bringing their dirty/smelly sheep (and themselves) into town. They were the day-laborers, the migrant farmers of their day: doing low-class work, with other low-class people, living in low-class places. **As far as power/prestige was concerned, they were nobodies. They weren’t on anybody’s list to invite to something important - except God’s.**

You see, the real “Good News” is that God, in His love, has included ALL in this offer of peace (including nobodies like you and me).

GROUP QUESTIONS

- What does this passage tell us about God?
- What does this passage tell us about people?
- What else can we discover/wonder at/learn from this passage?
- How might God be calling you to shift your focus this Advent?