



ADVENT CONSPIRACY

WEEK 4 - LOVE ALL

SERIES BIG IDEA

This Christmas, let's conspire to truly worship the Savior who is born.

BIG IDEA

This Christmas, let us conspire to Love All and help people find their way back to God.

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 2:8-20

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.

OPENING THOUGHTS

1. What is your favorite Christmas movie?
2. This week we are talking about loving all. When you think about "loving all," who are the people that often get left out of that equation?

BIBLE DISCUSSION

3. Read Luke 2:8-20 - What words or phrases stand out to you the most? Why?

In the first century shepherds were at the very bottom of the society, often associated with bandits and otherwise "dirty folk." They weren't even allowed in the temple because they were considered too religiously unclean.

4. Does knowing this background information about shepherds impact your understanding of the birth story of Jesus? Why or why not?

LIFE APPLICATION

5. It's often hard for us to accept that God came to love us all, including ourselves. It's hard to let that sink into our hearts and minds fully. Does anything hold you back from feeling and knowing this? To what degree do you live with sense of God's love?

NEXT STEPS/CHALLENGE

6. Just as the shepherds went and told their story to others, whom could you tell your story to this Christmas? Who do you know that needs to know love and how can you be a BLESSing to them?