

**Taking it Home:**

1. Consider one of the following as you gaze on the face of Christ during this advent season.

Download one of these daily advent guides:

Dallas Seminary - [ips.dts.edu/christmas-devotional-ebook-2023](https://ips.dts.edu/christmas-devotional-ebook-2023)  
 CRU - [cru.org/advent](https://cru.org/advent)

Watch one of the following movies:

The Journey to Bethlehem (In theaters now)  
 Christmas with the Chosen: Holy Night (In theaters: Dec. 12)  
 The Nativity (Streaming)

2. Pray for opportunities to share about Jesus this Christmas season.

**Prayer Concerns:****An Extraordinary Message to Ordinary People**

Luke 2:8-20

**The Story of The Shepherds****Christmas Reflections from their story:**

1. God \_\_\_\_\_ those overlooked by the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Gospel message displaces \_\_\_\_\_ and leads to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Christmas is a time to refocus our \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Anyone can share what they have \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ about Jesus.

**The Good Shepherd**

## **Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions**

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### **Getting Started:**

1. What is your favorite Christmas tradition?

### **Digging Deeper:**

#### **Read Luke 2:8-20**

1. Why do you suppose the Savior of the world was born in an obscure village, laid in a manger, and announced to shepherds? What does this say about God? What does it say about us?
2. What is the significance in the announcement of the angels in verses 10-14? How did this Savior dispel fear and bring joy and peace? In what way is Jesus bringing you joy and peace this Christmas season?
3. God appeared to the shepherds when they were just going about their daily lives. Why is that significant? How has God recently spoken to you in the ordinary flow of life?

4. The shepherds hurried to set their eyes on baby Jesus. In what practical ways are you refocusing your attention on Christ during this season of Advent? How do you keep Jesus above commercialism and tradition?
5. Read Isaiah 40:11, John 10:11, and Psalm 23. In what way has Jesus been a good shepherd to you? How has he guided, protected, disciplined, and tended your heart recently?
6. God used common, uneducated shepherds as the first evangelists of the gospel message. How does their strategy of sharing what they saw and heard encourage you in your sharing? Take some time to pray for God to give you opportunities to share with others this Christmas season.