

Wonder of Christmas – 12-10-23 – Pastor Rob

wonder: a feeling of surprise mingled with admiration, caused by something beautiful, unexpected, unfamiliar, or inexplicable.

1. What Christmas traditions do you have?
2. What about Christmas brings you wonder?

Luke 2:8-20 - 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.

3. What do you think it was like to be a shepherd in Jesus' day? (vs. 8)
4. What do you think it was like for the shepherds to have the angel of the Lord appear to them?
5. Why do you think that God chose shepherds to announce Jesus' birth to?
6. Why do you think the shepherds spread the word about what they had been told about Jesus? (vs. 17)
7. Do you find it easy or hard to share about Jesus with others? Why?

Matthew 28:19-20 - Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

8. Why do you think that God chose us to share about Jesus with the world? (Mathew 28:19-20)

1 Peter 3:15 - But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

9. How prepared would you say you are to give an answer for the hope that you have?
10. Why is it so important to have gentleness and respect when we are sharing about Jesus?
11. What are your feelings about being used by God to reach others?
12. Who do you know that needs to know Jesus?
13. How might God allow you to be a part of bringing them to Jesus this Christmas?