



Week Four: The Unlikeliest of Stars

Luke 2:8-14

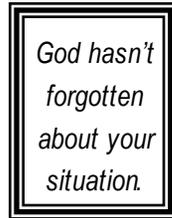
And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

Lessons from the Lowly

1. The shepherds remind us that God favors the _____.

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



- Being _____ is the quickest way out of a difficult situation.

Psalms 46:10 NASB

Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

- When you feel _____ and _____, remember that help is on the way.
- The shepherds remind us that our _____ doesn't have to handicap our _____.

2. The shepherds show courageous _____.

- The shepherds had the courage to drop the _____ to seize the _____.
- God's calling needs to be top _____ in our lives.

3. The shepherds show us that being in the _____ of Christ is followed by a public _____ of Christ.

- Christ is a _____ for all and is to be _____ by all.
- The _____ of my love for Christ and man will be seen by my _____ to share Christ.
- Sharing Christ is a result of finding the original in a flock of _____.

4. The shepherds paint a beautiful picture of the _____ of man.

Isaiah 53:5-6

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

- The sheep remind us of the predicament of man: _____, directionless, and _____.
- The shepherds remind us of the _____ and direction of God.
- Salvation is understanding Jesus as the _____ and as the _____.