

Living Connections Bible Study



Glad Tidings to All

Text: Luke 2:9-14

Prayer

Icebreaker: Read the text and discuss with your small group the wide range of emotions the Shepherds must have experienced that first Christmas night.

1. For whom was this angelic announcement intended? And why would this message bring gladness and joy? Verses 10-11

2. What do we learn about God's righteous character in the following verses? Psalm 7:11-16; Romans 1:18; 3:23

3. Does this mean that God does not love the fallen human race whom He created for His glory?
Psalm 145:8-9; Romans 2:2-7; John 3:16;

4. Does God take pleasure in punishing the wicked? 2 Peter 3:9; Ezekiel 18:23, 30-32; 33:11

5. How did Jesus express His heart of compassion for His own people who had rejected Him?
Luke 13:34

6. What do we learn about God's desire toward all men in 1 Timothy 2:3-6

7. Did Jesus die only for the elect? 1 Timothy 2:6; 1 John 2:2; 4:10, 14

8. What universal invitations did Jesus make in the following verses?

Matthew 11:28-29

John 7:37-38

John 11:26 _____

John 12:46 _____

Acts 10:43 _____

9. Why can't an unbeliever come to Christ without God enabling them to do so?
Ephesians 2:1-2; Romans 3:11; John 6:44

10. How is it possible then for God to extend an invitation to repentance and salvation to all men and hold them accountable for rejecting it? Genesis 6:3; John 12:32-33; 16:7-8; Acts 7:51; 17:26-31

11. What did Jesus mean that *Many are called, but few are chosen*? Matthew 22:1-14

12. Would a merciful, loving, just and righteous God give men a command to repent and believe and not give them the ability to do so? Acts 16:31; 17:27-28, 30; Matthew 12:13

Think about it this week:

But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way;

Do not say in your heart, Who will ascend into heaven?

(that is, to bring Christ down from above) or,

Who will descend into the abyss? (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

But what does it say?

*The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach):
that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus [meaning to confess Jesus to be your new Master]*

and believe in your heart [that He died as your sacrifice and]

that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

For with the heart one believes unto righteousness,

and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

For the Scripture says, Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek,

for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him.

For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Romans 10:6-13

Have I called on the name of the Lord and received the gift of salvation?