

## Follow The Shepherds

They must have been stunned, those shepherds, that night.  
They must have been awed by the glorious light  
of The Ancient of Days  
as through angels His praise  
was sent forth like rays  
from the Sun on its flight.

They must have been shaken, by the message, those men,  
whose glorious meaning they did not comprehend;  
how God in His grace  
did descend to that place  
to save His whole race  
from their sorrow and sin.

They must have been stirred, those men, in their souls  
to taste of His Holiness, as bright burning coals  
did so fit their eyes  
and their frightening cries  
and their sorrowful sighs  
His praise to extol.

They must have been silent, as meekly they came  
to adore the Child King, their love to proclaim  
for the God born to men  
whose mind ever had been  
to atone for the sin  
for which they were to blame.

Then, we must come too, as humbly as they  
and we must come stirred, as they on that day;  
for God's interest is not  
found bartered nor bought  
but when he who has nought  
at Christ's feet he does lay.

David W. Hegg

## ***Rejoice! the Lord is Come*** **The Reality of Rejoicing** Luke 2:1-20

**Introduction:** On this Third Sunday of Advent we pay particular attention to the shepherds whom God Himself chose to be the first to hear of the birth of the Promised King. It was to these, whose job it was to raise and guard the Temple lambs, that the invitation first came to worship the Lamb of God. They were the first to experience the reality that the promise of a Savior had been fulfilled.

### **The History**

God and the King  
God and the Lamb

**Luke 2:1-5**

### **The Birth**

A simple birth  
There must be more to the story

**Luke 2:6,7**

### **The Shepherds**

Who were they?  
What were they doing?  
What did they experience?  
What did they do?

**Luke 2:8-20**

### **Applying God's Truth to Our Lives ...**

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**The Reality of Rejoicing**

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# KIDS NOTES

## The Reality of Rejoicing

### The Questions

Answer the following questions. The answers are on the back.

- The Bethlehem shepherds were probably:*
  - lazy and afraid to sleep out in the cold.
  - out with their flocks year-round caring for the Temple lambs.
  - the finest men's quartet of the 1950's.
  - all of the above.
  
- When the shepherds heard of Jesus' birth they:*
  - figured it was a hoax.
  - ran immediately to find the baby.
  - canceled their dinner reservations.
  - all of the above.
  
- From the shepherds we learn that no matter who we are:*
  - we will find a welcome in the presence of Jesus.
  - we can carry the message of love and deliverance in Jesus.
  - we can live in the hope of heaven because of Jesus.
  - all of the above

**For Family Discussion:** What is our favorite Christmas tradition? Why? How does it help you rejoice over God's gift of Jesus to the world?

### Space to Doodle

### Did You Hear It?

Mark the times you hear these key words:

SHEPHERDS _____	TOTAL: _____
LAMBS _____	_____
BETHLEHEM _____	_____
CHOIR _____	_____
BELIEVED _____	_____
REJOICING _____	_____

### Word Search

Find the following words in the scramble below. Letters are sometimes used twice, and words may go around corners.

SHEPHERDS LAMBS BETHLEHEM TOWER CHOIR FIELDS CHOIR  
 TEMPLE PASSOVER PROMISE FULFILLMENT PATIENCE LOWLY SIN  
 REJOICING REALITY CHRISTMAS HOLY LIGHTS COMPASSION GIVE  
 GENEROSITY SAVIOR CHRIST LORD MANGER STABLE CAVE MUSIC

F A E Z G B W M B C R O B R E H F  
 D U O V N B R U L O Z T L N V T I  
 A R L R I Z B S U M Y T I L A E R  
 W M O F C S R I Y P F S X E C P G  
 V G P L I Z X C S A O I J W O E S  
 F M S P O L P A S S O V E R N T S  
 M X T A J W L O Q S V G O E H A P  
 N E X T E A L M I I H T R G M R E  
 L M H I R O S Y E O I O I T O C L  
 S D R E H P E H S N S L S M M H P  
 R D N N L Q S H M I T I I A O R M  
 E V L C R H G B T L R S N L N I E  
 W E M E T W T Y M H E G Y Q U S T  
 O S A V I O R E C A E E L B A T S  
 T E V I G F B P B R L C H O I R O