INTRODUCTION

We have seen the promise previewed in Genesis 3:15 with the declaration that the “he” would one day deal with the corruption brought into the world through Satan and sin. We have seen the promise expanded in Isaiah 9 where we learned the Promised He would be God Himself, coming in knowledge and power to take the throne of David eternally. This weekend we see the message of an angel from heaven to Mary, Joseph, and the Shepherds, and learn the glorious truth that the Promised He has come. He is Jesus, the Savior, the Messiah, and the Lord of All!

Three Angelic Encounters:  Mary, Joseph, and the Shepherds

What do we learn about Mary and Jesus in Luke 1:26-38?

What do we learn about Joseph and Jesus in Matthew 1:18-24?

What do we learn about the Shepherds and Jesus in Luke 2:8-14?

What must our response be?

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”  Luke 2:11
MONDAY | LUKE 1:26-38
What do we learn from the humility in Mary’s response to the angels? What does it mean to have found “favor with God”? Is this favor that Mary found because of something great in her? What promises of God is the angel announcing to Mary? Where do we find this promise in Scripture? How does this announcement speak to God’s ability to keep His promises? How does that engender greater trust in Him?

TUESDAY | MATTHEW 1:18-24
What do we learn about Joseph’s character in this passage? How does what we learn about Joseph’s character get confirmed by how he responds to the angel? When the Lord leads you somewhere do you respond like Joseph? Where in your life could you respond with more faithfulness?

WEDNESDAY | LUKE 2:8-14; ISAIAH 6:1-3
How does the text describe how the shepherds responded to the appearance of the angel? How is their reaction different from contemporary stories of angelic encounters? If the shepherds’ initial reaction to the angel of the Lord was that impactful, what does that tell you about God’s glory? How does Isaiah 6 demonstrate a proper response to the glory of God? Do you have the same healthy reverence for God’s glory? How could you cultivate that in your own life?

THURSDAY | LUKE 2:8-14
Through the proclamation of the angels, God showed His greatness and worth to the shepherds. When do you remember first sensing the beauty of God’s glory and worth? How did you first hear the good news of Jesus Christ coming into the world? Who told you and how did you respond? There are many things revealed about God’s nature and character through the birth of Jesus; namely, that He fulfills His promises. What attributes of God do you see in this part of the Advent narrative? Why are those attributes important as you reflect on your own relationship with the Lord?

FRIDAY | PRAY
Thank God for His sovereign orchestration in salvation and for being faithful in keeping His promises. Ask Him for the boldness and faith to trust His saving power as He uses you to share the good news of Christ’s coming this holiday season.

If you have any questions or need additional resources, email Pastor David at: david.hegg@gracebaptist.org