

“The Shepherds – Faithful Witnesses”

Dec. 23, 2012

Luke 2:8-20

1. Humble Serving.

“And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.” (Luke 2:8)

2. Careful Listening.

- A fearful experience.

*“And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, Fear not...”
(Lk. 2:9-10a)*

- An exciting message.

*“...for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”
(Lk. 2:10b-12)*

- An overwhelming presentation.

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased.” (Lk. 2:13-14)

3. Immediate Obeying.

*“When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us. And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.”
(Lk. 2:15-16)*

4. Powerful Sharing.

*“And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them”
(Lk. 2:17,18,20)*

Application:

1. What aspect of the shepherd’s story do you most appreciate? What areas of your walk with God do you need to follow their example of immediate obedience?
2. Ask the Lord for greater boldness as you seek to share the story of Christ and His good news of salvation.