

Message Notes

Pastor Dave Gudgel

Date: December 23, 2018

Bible Focus: Luke 2:8-16,20

Message Title: Just What We Need

Luke 2:8-16,20 – 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." ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

The good news of Jesus' birth brought:

1. **Great** _____ (v.10)

2. **Godlike** _____ (v.14)

3. **Undeserved** _____ (v.11; 1 John 4:10)

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Luke 2:8-16,20

1. What "just what I need" Christmas gifts do you recall receiving? Can you remember the impact these gifts made in your life?
2. How is your life different, or not, due to Jesus – God's "just what we need" gift?
3. How has a relationship with Jesus brought you great joy? When you experience a loss of joy, what do you do?
4. When have you experienced unexplainable peace? In what ways is your life better because of peace *with* God and the peace *of* God?
5. How have you been changed by God's undeserved love? How does God's love compare to the love you receive from others?
6. How can what we've focused on today make this Christmas more meaningful for you?