

Good News of a Promise Kept

Luke 2:10-11

The Good News is that God keeps His Promise!

1. *There has been born for you a _____.*

The good news is that Jesus can _____ you!

- a. What do we need to be saved **from**?
 - our own _____ Isaiah 53:6 & Romans 3:12,16
 - our *living*-_____ Genesis 2 & Ephesians 2
 - God's _____ Romans 5:8
- b. Who must do the work of salvation?
I Corinthians 15:1-4 and Titus 3:5-6
- c. Who is invited to be saved?
...for all the people... Luke 2:10
We (no matter who we are) _____ *be saved!*
Acts 4:12

2. *There has been born... _____.*

The good news is that Jesus is the _____!

- a. The good news is God's promise – _____ it.
 - The kingdom is _____. Is. 9:7, Jer. 33:14-16
 - The kingdom is _____ – presently. Heb. 2:8-9
- b. The good news is God's kingdom come – _____
to enter. Matthew 3:2, 4:17; Mark 1:15
- c. The good news is God's kingdom come – _____
for it.

3. *There has been born... the _____.*

The good news is that Jesus _____ people under His _____!

- a. Jesus _____ **us** by His power.
Romans 1:16; I Cor. 1:18; I Thess. 1:5; 2 Timothy 1:8
- b. Jesus _____ **us** in death and new life.
2 Corinthians 5:17 *anyone in Christ is a new creation...*
- c. Jesus _____ **all!**
2 Thessalonians 1:6-10
*Dealing out retribution to those who do not _____
God... or _____ the gospel!*

Challenge: The good news is good news, so follow the shepherds.
Luke 2:20

Discussion Guide: Good News of a Promise Kept

Opener: Share a time you received really good news. What was the news? How did you respond? How did it impact your life? Did you share the news or keep it secret?

Do we (as church people) treat the gospel as Good News by how we respond, receive its life-impact and share it?

- 1. Discuss Mark's misunderstanding of the gospel as he shares it below.** Do Christians unintentionally contribute to this misunderstanding of the gospel. How is the true "Good News" different than what he thought he heard?

*"Growing up, I thought that as long as I believed in a nebulous Sky Fairy named God and was a decent, moral person outperforming those below me on the ethical food chain, I would end my life hearing the old theme song from the Jeffersons television show and be "movin' on up" to heaven with all the other good guys. So I worked hard through high school and graduated 'Most Likely to Succeed' and student body president. I was very proud to have never drunk alcohol, smoked a cigarette, tried a drug or voted Republican." MN note: **But he also found he'd never met God or experienced a transformed life.***

- 2. Divide into pairs or threes and spend 6 minutes writing a one sentence definition of the "good news" also known as the gospel. Get back together to share and text your sentence to 402-910-2490.** (I'll send mine back for you to discuss, if you'll text it to me at this point in your discussion.)
 - If this is the "good news by which you are saved" (1 Corinthians 15:1-4) is it important that we know what the essential elements of that message are and could summarize it quickly?
 - Can we? Do we?

- 3. The Shepherds received the good news of a Savior who is Christ the Lord.**

So the good news includes Jesus as Savior, Lord and Christ. We, who repent and believe, receive the gifts of salvation, a kingdom and a transformed life.

Which parts of the good news get the most press time – from you? From our church?

- "Jesus can save you!"
- "Jesus is King!"
- "Jesus changes you by His rule!"

Prayer Target: Hearts filled and lips overflowing with the good news of Jesus.

Good News of a Promise Kept

Luke 2:10-11

The Good News is that God keeps His Promise!

1. There has been born for you a Savior.

The good news is that Jesus can save you!

- a. What do we need to be saved from?
 - our own way Isaiah 53:6 & Romans 3:12,16
 - our living-death Genesis 2 & Ephesians 2
 - God's wrath Romans 5:8
- b. Who must do the work of salvation?
I Corinthians 15:1-4 and Titus 3:5-6
- c. Who is invited to be saved?
...*for all the people*... Luke 2:10
We (no matter who we are) **must** be saved! Acts 4:12

2. There has been born... Christ.

The good news is that Jesus is the King!

- a. The good news is God's promise – believe it.
 - The kingdom is promised. Isaiah 9:7, Jer. 33:14-16
 - The kingdom is unseen – presently. Hebrews 2:8-9
- b. The good news is God's kingdom come – repent to enter.
Matthew 3:2, 4:17; Mark 1:15
- c. The good news is God's kingdom come – work for it.

3. There has been born... the Lord.

The good news is that Jesus changes people under His rule!

- a. Jesus saves **us** by His power.
Romans 1:16; I Cor. 1:18; I Thess. 1:5; 2 Timothy 1:8
- b. Jesus changes **us** in death and new life.
2 Corinthians 5:17 *anyone in Christ is a new creation...*
- c. Jesus rules **all**!
2 Thessalonians 1:6-10
*Dealing out retribution to those who do not know God...
or obey the gospel!*

Challenge: The good news is good news, so follow the shepherds.
Luke 2:20