

GIFT EXCHANGE: Exchange Self-Centered for Savior-Centered

LUKE 2:8-15

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■ Central Church

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■ Social Media: #GiftExchange

Christmas Day Should Be Self-Forgetting and Savior-Focused

1. **Proclaim** Christ the Savior (8-12).

2. **Praise** Christ the Savior (13-14).

3. **Pursue** Christ the Savior (15).

Luke 2:8-15 (ESV)

“And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

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.”

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APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. The angels proclaimed Jesus as “Christ the Lord!” To whom will you have the opportunity to deliver this Christmas message? What is the importance of his titles “Christ,” “Savior,” and “Lord?”
2. Worship was at the very heart of that first Christ-centered Christmas! What worship emphasis will you bring to your home this Christmas? How?
3. Being busy is the best way to miss out on a Christ-centered Christmas. What things make you so busy you miss opportunities to worship and wonder over Jesus the Savior? How will you fight this tendency?
4. The “peace” that verse 14 refers to is objective and subjective. There is “peace with God” and “the peace of God.” What’s the difference, and how can we gain each in Christ?

Quote for the Week. . . by Mark Dever



“The Christian call to evangelism is a call not simply to persuade people to make decisions but rather to proclaim to them the Good News of salvation in Christ, to call them to repentance, and to give God the glory for regeneration and conversion. We don’t fail in our evangelism if we faithfully present the Gospel and yet the person is not converted; we fail only if we don’t faithfully present the Gospel at all.”