



## 1. Connect

**Question of the Day.** When do you like to start hearing Christmas music?

## 2. Engage: Sermon Review + Discussion

This week, our message this week continued in Luke 2. Even though this passage is familiar, pray that God gives us a fresh look at what He has for us today.

### Luke 2:1-14 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup>(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to their own town to register.

<sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

1. Share about a time when someone was present when you really needed them? How did that feel?
2. People were disrupted in the events surrounding the coming of our Savior. What do you think it felt like to: travel for over a hundred miles and not find a good place to stay with your family? Or to be one of the shepherds hearing the announcement of Jesus?
3. Jesus gifts us with the gift of His presence bringing to the "earth peace". How has His peace shown up in your life lately? In what ways are you hoping God to show up?



### 3. Apply: Next Faithful Step

1. In a time marked by disruption and fear, God brought the gift of His presence through messengers (vv. 8-9, vv. 15-17) and ultimately in Christ for our lives. Who do you think God is calling you to give the gift of His presence in this Christmas season?
2. Take a moment amidst all the parties, gatherings and even challenges to pray for God to reveal for you what it might look like for you to embrace the gift of His presence in this season.

### 4. Prayer

Take some time to hear prayer requests from each member of your LifeGroup. Pray for one another, for your families, communities, our church, and the world.

\*If anyone needs additional pastoral support or prayers regarding this sermon or any other aspect of our series, please don't hesitate to reach out to our pastoral staff. We would love to chat more deeply and pray with you.



THE GIFT OF...

LifeGroup Discussion Guide

