

ADVENT 3: JOY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS


VARIOUS TEXTS


- 1 Shepherds were poor, lower-class people in their society, despised by religious Jews because their work kept them away from many religious activities.

 Looking at Luke 2:8-14, why do you think God chose shepherds to be the first ones to hear the good news of the birth of Jesus?

 How does God's choice of the Shepherds encourage you?

- 2 In Luke 2:10, the angel talks about “good news of great joy for all people.” Look carefully at the three ways Jesus is described in verse 11. What are they?


 What would each of these have meant for poor Jewish shepherds under Roman occupation in the first century?


 Take time to consider what each description means to you today. In what areas of your life do you need good news, great joy, that comes for all people?

 Why is this announcement by the angel cause for joy for you and not just for the shepherds?

- 3 What progression do you see in Mary's responses in (Luke 1:29, 34, 38)?

 How does Gabriel answer her question about how this could happen (v. 35-37)?

 Have you ever experienced going from confusion to questioning and finally to faith? What was the situation?

 What do you think the angel's statement in (Luke 1:37) meant for Mary? What could it mean for you today?

