

GIVING

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6-7 ESV

Introduction:

- Christmas is all about giving. Last week we learned that God gave the world His very presence through the Person of His Son Jesus at the Virgin birth.
- This morning, through the story of the shepherds, I want to give you three principles on how God gives the gift of His Son to individuals today!
- Jesus said, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him" (John 6:44).

1. He Meets Us _____.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night (Luke 2:8).

*God often comes to us
in the darkness of our _____.*

2. He Brings Us _____.

And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear (v. 9).

3. He Gives Us the _____.

Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord (v. 10-11).

God has given us the gift of His Son Jesus. The question is, "**How will you respond to His gift?**"

You can:

- _____ it

He came to His own, and his own people did not receive him (John 1:11).

- **Try to** _____ it

*He saved us, **not because of works done by us in righteousness**, but according to his own mercy (Titus 3:5, emphasis added).*

- _____ it

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God (John 1:12).

Dear Lord,

I admit that I am a sinner. I have done many things that don't please You. I have lived my life for myself. I am sorry and I repent. I ask You to forgive me. I believe that You died on the cross for me, to save me. You did what I could not do for myself. I come to You now and ask You to take control of my life, I give it to You. Help me to live every day in a way that pleases You. I love You, Lord, and I thank You that I will spend all eternity with You. Amen.

God gave us _____!