

THE SURPRISING WITNESSES

Series: *The Surprises of Christmas*

– Luke 2:8-20 –

Last week we looked at some of the surprises surrounding the BIRTH of Jesus. Today we're going to discover some additional surprises related to the WITNESSES to Jesus' birth.

1. A PROFOUND _____ (vss. 8-9)

2. A PROPHETIC _____ (vss. 10-12)

3. A PERFECT _____ (vss. 13-14)

4. A PERSONAL _____ (vs. 15)

5. A POWERFUL _____ (vss. 16-20)

Internalizing the Incarnation. . . "A Savior as been born to YOU."

God gave joy to the shepherds in four ways:

1. God came to them _____ they were
2. God came to them _____ they were
3. God moved them _____ they were
4. God changed them _____ they were

Application Questions. . .

1. What especially spoke to you in this passage?
2. Of all the people the angels could have visited, why do you suppose God sent them to the shepherds?
3. God appeared to the shepherds when they were just being themselves. What does that imply about what it means to be "spiritual"?
4. What pictures come to mind when you think of powerful, successful people? How do these images sometimes conflict with knowing Christ? (I Cor. 1:26-29)
5. What social, ethnic or religious barriers have you overcome in Jesus' name?
6. What aspects of the story of Christ's birth as presented here do you think are most easily overlooked in the way the Christmas holiday is celebrated?
7. In light of how you're doing spiritually, which point in this message do you think is the most important at this time?