

Home - Pt 3- People
December 21, 2025

As you join this discussion, let the Holy Spirit guide you. Share your thoughts and reflect on the message. Work through the guide by reading Scripture and answering a few questions.

Open Up:

When you think of "home," what's one person (or type of person) who makes you feel most at ease?

Read Together:

Luke 2:8-10

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people

Genesis 12:2-3

"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.

Exodus 19:5-6

Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

Isaiah 49:6

"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.

Luke 2:11

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

Luke 2:16-20

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been

told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Acts 5:42

Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

Discuss Together:

- What does the idea of “gospelizing” (embodied witness—living and sharing the good news) add to or challenge your understanding of evangelism?
- Brennan Manning says, *“My deepest awareness of myself is that I am deeply loved by Jesus Christ and I have done nothing to earn it or deserve it.”*
What gets in the way of living from that awareness rather than trying to prove or earn God’s love?
- The shepherds were socially marginalized and often viewed as untrustworthy.
How does God’s choice of shepherds challenge our assumptions about who is “ready” or “qualified” to receive or share the gospel?
- Ragamuffin faith assumes honesty about our weakness.
How might pretending we are “put together” actually undermine our witness to the gospel of grace?
- The shepherds shared what they had “*heard and seen*” (Luke 2:20).
What’s the difference between sharing an experience of Jesus versus explaining beliefs about Jesus?

- How does embracing a ragamuffin identity (deeply loved, nothing to prove) free us to gospel more authentically and less fearfully?

Pray:

Ask God to help you truly believe, not just intellectually, but deeply, that you are fully loved by Jesus, just as you are.

Pray for eyes to notice the people around you this season who may feel like they don't belong, and for courage to reflect Christ's love with gentleness and respect.

Invitation:

This week, intentionally share Christmas with one person, through an invitation, a meaningful conversation, or a simple act of presence, and be ready to gently share *why* this season matters to you if the opportunity comes.