

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

AN INVASION OF HOPE

LUKE 2:8-14

DECEMBER 17TH, 2023

- I. An Unexpected Setting: vs. 8-9
- II. A Joy-filled Declaration: vs. 10-11
- III. A Humble Sign: vs. 12
- IV. A Praise Erupting Response: vs. 13-14

Questions:

1. What is "Advent" and why is it so important for Christians to observe?
2. What was so unexpected about the setting and the characters? What does that say about how God typically works?
3. What do the three titles given to describe Jesus by the angel in vs. 11 mean and why are they significant to keep in mind during the Christmas season?
4. The following quote by John Piper was used in the sermon: **"Christmas is an indictment before it becomes a delight. It will not have its intended effect until we feel desperately the need for a Savior."** In what practical ways can you cultivate a greater awareness of the desperate need for a Savior in your own life during this season?
5. What does the humble sign in vs. 12 show us about Jesus' heart?
6. Go around and have each person share the condition of their heart right now in this Christmas season. What changes might you need to make so that your response to the birth of Jesus mirrors vs. 14 of erupting in praise and glory to God?