"The Birth of Christ"   Luke 2:8-20

1. The birth of Christ came at the God appointed time (v. 1-3)

2. The birth of Christ happened at the prophesied location (v. 4-7)

*pictures of Bethlehem fields

*pictures of mangers

3. The birth of Christ shows us God's love for all (v. 8-9a)

*picture of shepherd

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

4. The birth of Christ is the arrival of the glory of God (v. 9b)

"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being." (Hebrews 1:3)

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

5. The birth of Christ gives us reason to not be afraid (v. 10a)

*picture of angel

"Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27)

6. The birth of Christ is God's gift of joy (v. 10b)

"You believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy." (I Peter 1:8)

7. The birth of Christ is good news for everyone (v. 10b)

"This is good and pleases God our Savior who wants all men to be saved." (I Timothy 2:3-4)

8. The birth of Christ is the birth of the promised Savior (v. 11-12)

"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." (John 3:17)

9. The birth of Christ caused the angels to give glory to God (v. 13-14)

10. The birth of Christ invites us to come to him (v. 15)

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:29)

11. The birth of Christ tells us we can find him (v. 16)

*picture of shepherds at the manger

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:13)

12. The birth of Christ is good news that must be shared (v. 17-18)

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses." (Acts 1:8)

13. The birth of Christ is reason to <u>praise God</u> (v. 19-20)