



USE THESE QUESTIONS AND RESOURCES TO HELP YOU PROCESS THE MESSAGE IN YOUR PERSONAL STUDY TIME OR WITH YOUR GROUP.

**Message Recap:** In times of fear, uncertainty, or disappointment, God calls us to see with faith, recognizing His presence and good news, even in challenging moments. There is tension between what we see and what God is doing behind the scenes. By choosing to "see" through the lens of faith, we can move from fear to experiencing God's joy and involvement. The angels invited a group of shepherds to "see" the "good news of great joy for all people" when they announced the birth of Jesus. They then had to choose faith or fear. We have also been invited to "see" what God has done!

### » Main Points

- Seeing is the Hinge Between Fear and Faith
- GOOD NEWS!
- GREAT JOY!
- ALL PEOPLE!

### » Observation

- Read and reflect on [Luke 2:8-19](#); [Matthew 1:18](#); [Luke 1:28](#); [Matthew 2:12](#)
- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

### » Discussion Questions

- Do you agree with this statement: "Dead ends are often perfect places for new beginnings?" What does it mean, and how have you experienced a dead end that led you to a new beginning?
- What is the significance of the word "see" in the angel's message to the shepherds, and how does it connect to fear and faith?
- **Go to Jesus.** Reread Luke 2:15-19. Explain what you think it means to "go to Jesus." What could this look like in your life right now?
- **Go home via a different route.** Reread Matthew 2:12. Compare the text to your experiences. What would it mean for you to "go home via a different route?"

### » Next Steps and Prayer

- What does it mean to understand that Christmas is not an event to attend but a gift to receive? What gift is being offered at Christmas, and what could receiving that gift mean for you?
- Close by praying: Jesus, I'm **sorry** for the things I've done wrong. **Thank you** for what you have done for me. **Please** won't you come into my life. Lord, help me not be afraid but **see** as You see. To see the truth that You bring **good news** of **great joy** for **all people**. Amen.

*"Do not be afraid.*

***See!** I bring you **good news** of **great joy** for **all people**.*

*The Savior - yes, the Messiah, the Lord -*

*has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!"*

*- Luke 2:10-11 -*