

A Message Delivered

Luke 2:8–20

IDEA: We must learn three avenues by which we can share the most important message ever

Three actions of the shepherds and those who heard them are then revealed in verses 18-20. The actions are ones we need to emulate

1. Marvelled – What We Say to Ourselves

(Luke 2:18) “And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.”

Explanation

Marveling is what happens when truth settles into the heart and stops being routine. It’s when familiar words suddenly feel fresh again. The danger at Christmas isn’t rejection—it’s familiarity. We know the story so well that we stop being moved by it.

Think about the difference between reading a recipe and tasting the meal. You can know all the ingredients and still miss the experience. Marveling is tasting the truth.

2. Glorifying – What We Say to Others

(Luke 2:19–20) “But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart... And the shepherds returned, glorifying God...”

Explanation

Glorifying God involves giving Him proper credit—especially in public. The shepherds didn’t keep the message to themselves. They talked about it. They pointed away from themselves and toward God.

Evangelism doesn’t begin with having all the answers. It begins with honesty about what God has done.

3. Praising – What We Say to God

(Luke 2:20) "...glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them."

Explanation

Praising God completes the cycle of the message. Marveling receives it. Glorifying shares it. Praising returns it to God in gratitude and worship.

Praise is the soul's response to grace. It keeps the message from becoming mechanical. When praise fades, duty replaces delight.

Conclusion

The story of Jesus is a message that needs to be delivered to you or a message to be delivered by you.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it easy for the Christmas story to lose its sense of wonder over time?
2. What helps you personally "marvel" again at the message of Jesus?
3. How can glorifying God become more natural and less intimidating in everyday conversations?
4. What role does praise play in keeping your faith genuine rather than routine?
5. Who might God be prompting you to share the Christmas message with this season?