

Week 2, Day 2:

When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger.

Luke 2:15-16

People Are Curious

In every story we listen to, if you listen long enough you come to understand that people all around us are searching for Jesus, many just don't know it. They look toward other things to fulfill the void in their lives that point toward a deeper reality and longing in their lives. This longing crystallizes more clearly this time of year as we approach Christmas. It is a time of year where people naturally become more giving and generous and even seek ways to serve others. Hidden beneath the consumerism and customs of Christmas is a deeper longing that points to a continual search people have for Jesus.

Beyond the spiritual curiosity that is revealed in people's lives and habits this time of year, many people are curious about church itself as well. Around the world, people will flock to churches on Christmas Eve leaving others to wonder, "What's all the hype about?"

In last week's message, Tyler mentioned "Three Nots" – statements people use that can be cues for us to invite them to church. One of these "Nots" is when people say they are **not prepared for something**, such as a major life transition, like a new job or having a baby. Another one of these "Nots" is when people say they have **not been to church** in a while. These statements can be cues for us that they may be open to an invite to church.

Luke 2:15-16 says that when the shepherds heard about Jesus' birth they said to one another, "'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened...' so they hurried off and found Mary, Joseph and the baby who was lying in a manger."

Curiosity is what led the shepherds to meet Jesus, and curiosity could be what leads the people you invite to meet Jesus as well.

REFLECT:

Who in your life may be curious to know more about Jesus?