

Home Group study: week beginning 4th December 2022

TITLE: There is Hope – For Everyone PASSAGE: Luke 2:8-20 THEME: Hope for all

Leaders Notes:

- Please use these questions as conversation starters to aid discussions. Please don't feel obligated to go through all the questions.
- After the reading I always like to consider asking 'what immediately stands out in the passage?'

Introduction

What's the most interesting or funniest time where you've 'judged a book by its cover' and it was completely different? (we've all been there!)

Read Luke 2:8-20

Questions:

- 1. What do you imagine the visitation of the angels to visually look like? Feel free to go into as much description as you like / build on each other's description.
- 2. What do you think your reaction would be to receiving this kind of experience? Do you think it still happens today?
- 3. In verse 19, we read that Mary treasured up all these things in her heart. How special would this have been for the shepherds? Do you think anyone of them would have tried to find a grown-up Jesus?
- 4. Chris shared how shepherds were frowned up in their day as untrustworthy and low lives in society. Are there any occupations in today's society that receive the same attitude?

Chris shared examples from Jesus' life that demonstrates how this hope is really for everyone... all included...

- People of all races Gentiles / Samaritans (story of Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37)
- Gender Jesus speaks to woman at the well (John 4)
- Fallen Adulterous women (John 8)
- Power Roman Centurion (Matthew 8)
- Dishonest Tax Collectors (Luke 19)
- Establishment Religious leaders (John 3)

- 5. Do any of them particularly surprise you? Can you think of any other examples?
- 6. Do we believe there are those that are beyond the hope of Jesus?
- 7. What attitudes can become barriers for us sharing this hope with others we may not have a connection to?
- 8. Chris shared that the Shepherds became the first evangelists sharing this amazing story with those around them. He then shared Michael's story of hope from the evangelical alliance about the help and support he found whilst battling debt. What amazing stories of hope have you heard of Jesus transforming lives?
- 9. Chris encouraged us to consider 'What can we do to help support the physical needs of those around us? Hope meeting grace through practical means.
- 10. With all of this in mind and knowing the Hope of Jesus is for everyone How can we live our lives with an eternal view?

Pray

- That we would have a heart for all people as Jesus did.
- We would have moments and courage to share stories of hope.
- Pray for our carol service, for all those serving, for all those invited that whoever comes along would receive an encouragement of hope.