

The Christ story comes to the shepherds where they are.

When you hear the Christ story, what do you do?

- Go and see.

- Go and tell.

Life Group Study

For week of December 11, 2022

Many of our Life Groups use this insert as a discussion guide throughout the week. We encourage you to take that next step in your journey with Jesus & His church by joining one today! <https://rlc.pub/groups>

Share your story

What insight, question, or resolution did you discover as we worshiped the Lord together this past Sunday?

What has been your favorite part about meeting together as a life group this fall?

Connect to God's story

Read Luke 2:1-7.

What did you notice as you read through the story of Jesus' birth? What challenges do you imagine come with traveling when expecting a baby?

Babies tend to come on their own schedule and Jesus was no different! What do you do when things don't happen the way you thought they would? What is your strategy for overcoming barriers that come your way?

Read Luke 2:8-20.

What does it show us about God that he would choose a group of shepherds to announce this wonderful birth? What are the three names the Angel uses for Jesus? What is significant about these names for Jesus?

What was the shepherd's response to the Angel? What was their response when the host of heaven appeared? What was their response when seeing Jesus? How did the people they told respond?

What is the "good news that will bring great joy to all people" that the angel was talking about? Has a revelation about Jesus – what He's done for you – caused you to respond in a similar fashion?

What are some things you would like to glorify and praise God for? Why do you think this is important for us to do?

During this last Life Group meeting this session, you are invited to take communion together. Do this together glorifying and praising the Lord for the new life he has graciously given us – remembering His death until He returns.

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-24.

Respond to this passage by passing around the bread and eating it together.

Read 1 Corinthians 11:25-26.

Respond to this passage by drinking the cup together and close in prayer.

Advent Conspiracy

Be a part of a different story this Christmas, one that celebrates our King and brings hope to the watching world.

[Worship Fully] It starts with Jesus. It ends with Jesus. This is the holistic approach God had in mind for Christmas. It's a season where we are called to put down our burdens and lift a song up to our God. It's a season where love wins, peace reigns, and a king is celebrated with each breath. It's the party of the year. Entering the story of advent means entering this season with an overwhelming passion to worship Jesus to the fullest.

[Spend Less] Before you think we're getting all Scrooge on you, let us explain what we mean. We like gifts. Our kids really like gifts. But consider this: America spends an average of \$450 billion a year every Christmas. How often have you spent money on Christmas presents for no other reason than obligation? How many times have you received a gift out of that same obligation? Thanks, but no thanks, right? We're asking people to consider buying ONE LESS GIFT this Christmas. Just one. Sounds insignificant, yet many who have taken this small sacrifice have experienced something nothing less than a miracle: They have been more available to celebrate Christ during the advent season.

[Give More] God's gift to us was a relationship built on love. So, it's no wonder why we're drawn to the idea that Christmas should be a time to love our friends and family in the most memorable ways possible. Time is the real gift Christmas offers us, and no matter how hard we look, it can't be found at the mall. Time to make a gift that turns into the next family heirloom. Time to write mom a letter. Time to take the kids sledding. Time to bake really good cookies and sing really bad Christmas carols. Time to make love visible through relational giving.

[Love All] When Jesus loved, He loved in ways never imagined. Though rich, He became poor to love the poor, the forgotten, the overlooked and the sick. He played to the margins. By spending less at Christmas, we have the opportunity to join Him in giving resources to those who need help the most. As we as a community of faith continue to take hold of these simple steps in Advent Conspiracy we have been able to feed and help and support many individuals and families in our community. One less gift, unbelievable presence in the name of Christ.

For more ideas on how to be a part of a different story this Christmas visit: adventconspiracy.org