

# Readings

## Scripture

<sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

- Luke 2:16-20 (English Standard Version)

## Reflection

But

If there are words for Him then I don't have them.  
 But what I do have...is Good News,  
 For my God knew that man-made words would never do,  
 For words are just tools that we use  
 To point to the Truth,  
 So He sent His son Jesus Christ as "The Word"  
 Living proof..

So it's not just words that I proclaim,  
 For my words point to "The Word"  
 And "The Word" has a name,  
 Hope has a name,  
 Joy has a name,  
 Peace has a name,  
 Love has a name

And that name is Jesus Christ.  
 Praise His Name forever!

- Excerpt from "The Word" by Isaac Wimberley

The shepherds decide to take a look at what God is doing. They find the child in the manger, just as the angel has said. Once again God is shown to keep his word. The shepherds share their story with those present. They respond with obedience and cannot contain themselves from testifying to what God has done in making Jesus' presence evident to them. Luke's reader is supposed to identify with their response to God's first revelation of this birth to the human race.

Darrell L. Bock, *NIV Application Commentary: Luke* (p. 85)

# Sermon Outline

## The Word Gets Out

Luke 2:16-20

*The Incarnation of Love*

Jeff Hooker

*The word was meant to get out...*

### How does the word get out?

#### Through their words (Luke 2:16-20)

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#### Through The Word (Luke 2:16-20)

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#### Through our words (Luke 2:16-20)

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### Reflection Questions (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- What are some characteristics of stories and messages that people love to share and talk about?
- What does the incarnation of Jesus, the Word, reveal to us about God? How does it further His story?
- What makes it difficult for us to share about Jesus? When we fail to share God's story and our part in it what does it reveal about our belief in His story?
- What is an area in your life where God can use you to "get the word out"? What is one practical step you can take this week to step out, in obedience and praise, to proclaim the good news?