

REFLECTIONS

December 25, 2005

**When they had seen him they spread the
word concerning what had been told
them about this child**

Luke 2:17-18

Spreading the Word

Part four in the series *Preparing for Christmas*

The air was fresh and cool. The stars were simply dancing in the sky. There had been many crisp and clear nights before, but there was something special about this one. On this night the quiet was even more quiet, the stillness was even more still. All so the heavenly voice could be clearly heard announcing, "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." (Luke 2:11-12)

Then in the solemn stillness the shepherds heard the voices of angels singing, "Peace on the earth, good will to men." It was a compelling scene, one that invited them to seek the newborn King. So they did.

When they found the Christ Child, little could they believe that here in this lowly place, in such an unlikely setting lay the newborn King foretold so long ago. Though he was only a baby they adored him, they worshiped him, and then they could not contain their desire to spread the word.

How exciting it must have been spreading the word! Lowly shepherds became heralds of the Good News. They had no idea how many other lives they would touch, but without them, we may not have known the beautiful story of God's birth into the world.

As we celebrate this glorious day, we are invited to seek the Christ Child. And when we find him, we can become heralds too. We will find the joy of spreading the word no matter how lowly our position may be. Those who hear it will be amazed at what we tell them, for the story we tell brings forth the joy of Christmas. And we have no idea how many other lives will be touched by it.

Merry Christmas

"You are the light of the world,"

Richard +