



# REFLECTIONS

December 24, 2023, From the Archives of 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

Stars simply danced above the evening's fresh cool air. Clear crisp nights were not unusual, but something felt special about this one. On this night the quiet seemed more peaceful, the stillness more solemn—all so a heavenly voice could announce, *"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 above the stillness, the shepherds heard a choir of angels sing, *"Peace on the earth, good will to men."* It sent a commanding invitation to seek the newborn King.

Their hearts melted a little when they found the Christ Child in such an unlikely setting for the birth of the King foretold so long ago. Though he was only a baby they adored him, they worshipped him, and then they could not contain their desire to spread the word.

How satisfying it must have been. 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 low 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* +

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