

SONGS OF *Christmas*

STUDY GUIDE | DECEMBER 20 AND 24, 2020

ANGEL'S SONG

THE POINTS FROM THIS MESSAGE WERE:

- God's power and the world's power take different forms.
- The angels sing of God's glory.
- In the Bible God's actions are accompanied by signs.
- Christ's cradle points to his cross.
- Jesus patiently waits for us to say yes to him.

LET'S TALK

1. What impacted you the most from this week's message?
2. In the message Pastor Steve asks, "Have you ever been disappointed or disillusioned with God because he didn't work or move in the outwardly dramatic way that you hoped he would? If this is true for you, how has this changed your view of God and the way he works?"
3. Read Luke 2:1-20. Although this is a familiar passage, are there any details you notice that you haven't noticed before?
4. How does the impact that Caesar Augustus had on the world compare with the impact Jesus has had?
5. Pastor Steve quotes Henri Nouwen as saying, "Somehow, I keep expecting loud and impressive events to convince me of God's saving power. But over and over again I'm reminded that power-plays, spectacles, and big events are the ways of the world, and our temptation is to be distracted by them. The small child of Bethlehem, the unknown young man of Nazareth, the rejected preacher, the naked man on the cross—he asks for my full attention. The work of our salvation takes place in the midst of a world that continues to shout, scream, and overwhelm us with its claims and promises. But the true promise is hidden in the gift that hardly anyone notices."

How can seeing things through Nouwen's eyes change the way we look at Jesus' birth?

6. What is one thing you can do this week to echo the words the angels sang: "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased?"

LET'S PRAY

Spend some time in prayer (for each other, for our community and for the world).

This resource and additional study guides are available at cornerstonechurch.ca/sermons

For more group resources including icebreakers, group activities, serving and other meeting ideas, visit cornerstonechurch.ca/onlinegroupideas
