







Sheepish



*Jesus did not want to make us good sheep,
but instead call us to be great shepherds*

You have to have a sheep

You have to have commitment

You have to take action

You have to be responsible for all the sheep God gives you.





How is a Shepherd Called?



Community

***And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby,
keeping watch over their flocks at night.***

Where were the shepherd --- In the field where they live

What were they doing --- watching sheep

They were just part of the community

They were just living

They were not looking for spiritual



The Invitation – v. 9-14

An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.



The Invitation

The invitation went to them.

The invitation was personal

The invitation was understandable

The invitation was exciting

Where did they go?



Crowd

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

They had to respond to the invitation



Bethlehem

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He



Bethlehem

went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.



Bethlehem

It was crowded

**Their faith journey had
already begun**

They searched

They found



Connected

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Responding to the invitation became the priority

What they found had to match what they were told



Committed

When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

As they left, they were committed to telling others

These were not theologians, they were just shepherds

They told what they heard and what they saw

They told the story more than once



Telling the Story of Christmas

**All who heard it
were amazed at
what the shepherds
said to them**



*Have You Answered
the Call of
Christmas*

