

SS Lesson for December 2023

Do You Need To Hear Some Good News?

(Luke 2:10)

We live in a day in which there's so much bad news. With Social Media and twenty-four hour news channels, we are made aware of every crisis around the world on a minute-by-minute basis. Crime, economic disasters, political corruption, personal scandals, and natural disasters contribute to the avalanche of bad news with which we are assaulted every day.

- **Part of the Appeal of Christmas is that it is a message of good news about God.**

- A. Christmas reveals to us the God above and behind the world in which we live.
- B. Christmas reveals God in the world in the person of Jesus Christ.
- C. Christmas reveals that God is for the world.

If we miss the good news of Christmas, we have missed the main point, for the Angel said to them, *"Don't be afraid! For I am here with good news for you."*

On Christmas, many will be experiencing joy, peace, and happiness. On the other hand, others will be experiencing the agony of what is known as "The Christmas Blues."

One psychiatrist said, "while Christmas brings joy to many, it stirs feelings of sadness in others." It has also been said that there is an increase in what we call neurotic depression during the Christmas season.

Does the message of Christmas, which is supposed to produce great joy, have anything relevant to say to people who are depressed? Christmas, which begins with the promise of good news that will bring great joy, should be more than just a strategy that enables us to cope with the pressures of life. Through the Christ who came at the first Christmas, God provides us with the ability to cope with life in a manner that will bring joy to us and will reflect His Glory.

The Angel who announced the birth of the Christ to the Shepherds, were bringing good news that continues to be good news for all who will listen and respond.

I. There is good news about God in the Gospel.

A. He is a God of Love ~ That's Good News!!

God is love. God's love for people is unmerited. God loves us because He is love. God has loved us in the past. God loves us in the present. God will always love us. His love for us is not determined by our attractiveness or performance. God's love is all-inclusive. It includes everybody! Nobody is left out.

II. The good news of Christmas is for all people.

The good news of Christmas is universal in its application, for it meets the deepest needs of all people. Whosoever will!!

A. The Gospel tells us that forgiveness is for all people. ~ That's good news! I don't have to have a guilty conscience.

B. The Gospel tells us that we can belong to the family of God. The Household of Faith. ~ That's good news!

C. The Gospel tells us that we have a precious home at the end of this life. ~ That's good news! (John 14:1)

We can face life with assurance that this life is not the end!!!