**“Holy Moments: Courageous Obedience of the Shepherds”**

**Dec-16/17, 2023**

**Speaker: Matt Price**

**Opening:** [15 mins] We suggest you begin with an opening prayer and then a brief “catch up” or “icebreaker” before moving into the *scripture reflection* and *application questions*.

**Scripture Reflection:** [20 mins]Read **Luke 2:8-20.** After allowing the group time to reflect on the passage, ask them to share what most stands out to them.

**Application Questions:** [40 mins](*These questions will help you and your group dig deeper into the weekend sermon. Feel free to edit or use only those which fit your allotted time.)*

1. Matt began his sermon by saying, *“’Holy moments’ can sometimes be fearful moments.”*
   1. Share a situation from your life when a “holy moment” was also a “fearful moment”. How did you respond to the fear?
2. Matt shared, *“One way new courage is produced is by the combination of ‘glory’ and ‘grace’.* He explained, *“The ‘glory’ of God is God’s unrivaled greatness and pre-eminent majesty on display, and ‘grace’ is His activity given to you.”*
   1. Share an example from your life when the combination of God’s “glory” and “grace” gave you courage?
3. Matt said, *“Fear alone does not produce courage. Only fear combined with ‘faith’ produces courage.”*
   1. Is there anything currently in your life that is causing you fear? How might you introduce faith to your fear? How might doing so change your fear?
4. Matt encouraged, *“The third combination that forms new courage in us is the combination of ‘truth’ and ‘testimony’.”*
   1. Share if fearful seasons in your life helped you to grow in your devotion to God, or if they caused your faith to be challenged.

**Closing & Prayer**: [15 mins]

* Have each person in your group share a prayer request, and then have someone pray for them.
* Pray that the CA church family would have grace for courage to obey God when feeling fearful.
* Pray that God would bless CA’s Christmas services and many would make 1st time commitments & recommitments to Jesus.