

Born For You

Part One- Don't Be Afraid!

November 26th, 2023

Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

(Luke 2:9, Holman Christian Standard Bible)

The angel said to them, "Don't be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: Today a Savior, who is Messiah the Lord, was born for you in the city of David. This will be the sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in cloth and lying in a feeding trough."

Suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to people He favors!"

(Luke 2:10–14, HCSB)

While Zechariah was in the sanctuary, an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the incense altar. Zechariah was shaken and overwhelmed with fear when he saw him. But the angel said, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give you a son, and you are to name him John."

(Luke 1:8–13, New Living Translation)

WHY SHOULDN'T WE BE AFRAID THIS CHRISTMAS?

1. Don't be afraid... God has heard your prayers!

Mary... was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David.

(Luke 1:27, NLT)

"Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!" Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean.

(Luke 1:28–29, NLT)

"Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God!"

(Luke 1:30, NLT)

2. Don't be afraid... God is for you!

If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else?

(Romans 8:31–32, NLT)

"You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"

(Luke 1:31–33, NLT)

I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true.

(Luke 1:38, NLT)

This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Matthew 1:18, NLT)

Joseph... was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.

(Matthew 1:19, NLT)

As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit."

(Matthew 1:20, NLT)

3. Don't be afraid... to take a leap of faith!

"[God] adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, 'Abba, Father.' For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory."

(Romans 8:15–17, NLT)

"And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

(Matthew 1:21, NLT)

When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.

(Matthew 1:24–25, NLT)

"Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people."

(Luke 2:10, NLT)

4. Don't be afraid... God has Good News for you!

God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

(1 John 4:9–10, NLT)

To all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

(John 1:12, NLT)

BCF ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 4PM
Topics Include: Adoption of 2024 Ministry Plan