

Adoration, Part I

Lesson Focus

Jesus, even as a baby, was deserving of worship and adoration. The shepherds responded to the angel's announcement by leaving behind everything, including their flocks, to go and worship the newborn Savior.

Key Passage(s)

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."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 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. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

– *Luke 2:15-20, NIV*

For the Parent

Worship is an important part of our relationship with Jesus Christ. Begin by talking about what the child sees in a worship services such as the praying and the songs. Focus in a bit on the songs and talk about why we sing them: to praise God.

Remind your child of the previous lesson, where the angel came to the shepherds. Then introduce the Bible passage for this lesson. Talk about how the shepherds responded. Hone in on the fact the shepherds left everything and went immediately to find Jesus.

Then talk about what they did when they found Jesus. They told everyone gathered there about what they had seen and heard, testifying about what the angel had said and what the other angels had said as well. Then, after they had seen Jesus, they went back and praised God.

For the Child

Jesus was one-of-a-kind. God took the time to send an angel to some shepherds to announce the birth of His Son. The shepherds responded by going immediately to Jesus to worship Him. Even as a baby boy he was worthy of worship.

The shepherds were so eager to see Jesus they left everything behind. They didn't find someone to tend their flocks and there is nothing in the story that says any of them stayed behind. They all knew seeing Jesus was the most important thing to do.

Then when they got to Mary, Joseph, and the baby, they were quick to tell everyone of what they had seen and heard. They talked about the angel and its message and the heavens opening up and the rest of the angels. All of this brought joy and encouragement to everyone gathered there. After seeing Jesus they went back, but they do so praising and glorifying God for what they had seen and heard.

Reinforcement

Spend some time this week talking with your child about how important it is to share his/her faith. Not only should we share our faith with those who don't know Christ, but we should also share things with fellow believers. With the shepherds, their sharing encouraged and strengthened Mary. Providing a witness to fellow Christians can serve the same purpose.