

Joy in Uncertain Times Devotion: Part 2

In Luke 2:10 we read *But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people"*

In this small verse about Jesus's birth there are four very important lessons we can learn. During this time of continued isolation, uncertainty of when things will return to "normal", financial strain that is beyond our control, medical concerns, and feeling lonely and scared these four important lessons from this verse can guide us during this time.

This devotion is a four-part series where each devotion will focus on each lesson separately.

Today is the second part where we focus on the words *bringing you good news*.

Bringing you good news

The news – what a hot topic in today's world. News and news production over the centuries have always been biased and headlines and stories were nuanced to invoke a certain feeling in the reader. However, over the last three years or so, the news seems to be under attack in ways that are unprecedented. These attacks can create an environment of wondering what is fact and what is not. During this pandemic it can be so difficult to determine what to listen to and follow and what not to. But today's portion of our passage reminds us there is only one thing to follow at all times in all situations and circumstances and that is the good news of Jesus Christ. This good news of Christ becoming flesh was God loving us so much that God became human in Christ and Christ taught us how much God loves you and me.

But this good news doesn't stop with Christ's birth. This good news fulfills the OT prophecies of prophets like Isaiah, Micah and Malachi that a savior was coming to the world. This good news is more than the Son of God being the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. This good news is about Jesus' death for you and me. And finally, this good news is about the resurrection when God fulfills his promises of loving us and saving us from ourselves once again. This good news is news you can read time and again in the bible and it doesn't change. This is good news that you can always rely on during the most difficult, scary and untenable situations and circumstances. This good news will always be true no matter what is going on with you, your family or the world.

During this time of unprecedented challenge may you cling to this good news of who God is of who Jesus is and what God has done for you and continues to do you for. During this time of isolation, high stress, worry, concern, fear may you remember the good news that was brought to those angels so long ago and how that good news changed this world and continues to change our hearts, minds and souls if we let it change us. During this time of uncertainty may you know there is one certainty that will never change and that is the good news of Jesus' love for you before you were born, now and forever.

Lord, may we embrace you and your good news of loving during this time were love seems so far distant in our lives. Breathe your spirit of love into us in these times and breathe your spirit of healing on this world. Amen.

by Rev. David Piltz