



December 8 – Believe...We Can't Go Alone

Some of the “least likely to be main characters in any story” are just that this weekend! Join us as we let this rag tag, on the edges group teach us a valuable truth we all need to believe: the truth that we are not meant to do life alone! Intrigued? How is this part of the Christmas story? Join us this weekend and find out!

Scripture:

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 ⁹Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. ¹⁰If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. ¹¹Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? ¹²A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

Luke 2:8-18 ⁸That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. ⁹Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, ¹⁰but the angel reassured them. “Don't be afraid!” he said. “I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. ¹¹The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! ¹²And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.” ¹³Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased.” ¹⁵When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, “Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” ¹⁶They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. ¹⁷After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. ¹⁸All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished...

Questions:

- When you are hurting in some way, what do you do? Do you reach out to others so they can walk with you, or do you tend to isolate yourself? What if this season, you reached out to others to be with you?
- The shepherds lived and worked together. And when the Good News of Jesus' birth came to them – together they went to see and celebrate. Who do you “do life” with outside your spouse/significant other/immediate family? Do they get to be part of the hard as well as the celebrations?
- Pastor Jane often says, “I can be really brave if I have even one person with me”. Is this true for you? How so? And how can you be brave for Jesus with others this season?

Reading for the Week:

Monday: Genesis 2:18

Tuesday: Proverbs 20:17

Wednesday: Hebrews 10:23-25

Thursday: Deuteronomy 31:6

Friday: Matthew 18:20