

# LHCF Sermon Discussion Guide

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## The Purpose of Christmas A Time for Celebration – Luke 2:8-10

### First Purpose of Christmas is to CELEBRATE.

*“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”*

### Three Reasons Why We Celebrate!

#### 1. God LOVES you

*“I pray that you will grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.” Ephesians 3:17-18*

- God’s love is wide enough to include everybody!  
*“The Lord is loving toward all He has made.” Ps.145:17*
  - Some suggest that God only loves “good” people.  
Remember the Bible says that none of us are good!
- God’s love is long enough to last forever!  
*“I have loved you with an everlasting love.” Jere. 31:3*  
*“God’s love will last for all time.” Psalm 89:2*
  - God’s love however, never wears out. His love is patient, persistent and persevering...God will never give up on you!  
Why? Because His love is not based on your performance but rather in His nature!
- God’s love is high enough to be everywhere!  
*“Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Rom. 8:39*
- God’s love is deep enough to meet my needs!  
*“My only hope is your love for my problems are too big for me to solve and are piled over my head.” Ps. 40:11*

*"The eternal God is your refuge and underneath you are His everlasting arms." Deut. 33:27*

- When you're despairing because of trouble and circumstances and feel like you're at your bottom. Remember God's love is deeper than your bottom!

## 2. God is **WITH** you

*"...I will never leave you, I will never abandon you." Hebrews 13:5*

- When I am lonely, God says, I am your companion.  
*"...God assured us, "I'll never let you down, never walk off and leave you," we can boldly quote, God is there, ready to help; I'm fearless no matter what. Who or what can get to me?" Hebrews 13:5-6 (MSG)*
- When I am fearful, God says, I am your confidence.  
*"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze." Isa. 43:2 (NIV)*
- When I am discouraged, God says, I am your comforter.  
*"The LORD is near to those who are discouraged; he saves those who have lost all hope." Ps. 34:18 (GN)*

## 3. God is **FOR** you

*"... With God on our side like this, how can we lose? If God didn't hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and exposing himself to the worst by sending his own Son, is there anything else he wouldn't gladly and freely do for us?" Rom. 8:31*

- Jesus said in John 3:17-18 *"God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again."*
- Because He is for you, He's committed to:
  - Finishing the work He's begun in you
  - Giving you abundant life
  - Giving you peace
  - Using your S-H-A-P-E for kingdom purposes
  - Guiding and directing your steps and your choices
  - Keeping all His promises of blessing your life