# Sunday 8th December – Connect Group Notes

## Meeting Royalty – The Shepherds

**Read Luke 2:1-17**

1. **Familiarity with the Christmas Story**
How familiar are you with the Christmas story as told in the Bible, compared to the version we often hear in nativity plays or popular culture? What details do we often add that aren't in the biblical account? Are there aspects of the story that are missed or overlooked in these retellings?
2. **The Shepherds' Role and Significance**
In Jesus' time, shepherds were often seen as outcasts—socially, religiously, and legally. Why is it significant that God chose to announce the birth of Jesus to them through angels? What does this tell us about the meaning of Jesus' birth?
3. **Jesus' Identity and Role**
In verse 11, the angel introduces Jesus by mentioning His relationship and role. How does the angel describe Jesus' identity and purpose? What does this tell us about who Jesus is and why He came?
4. **The Need for Good Leadership**
Do you agree with the idea that good leadership is essential in our lives? How does sin relate to rejecting God's authority, as though saying, "Shove off, God, I'm in charge, Not you"? How does this attitude compare to the leadership Jesus offers?
5. **Accepting Jesus as King**
How easy or difficult is it for you to accept Jesus as King over the earth, over the church, and over your personal life? What does it mean for you to live under His kingship?
6. **The Shepherds’ Response**
Why do you think the shepherds responded by going to Bethlehem to see what had happened? What drove their decision to take action after the angel's announcement?
7. **Following the Shepherds' Example**
In verse 15, the shepherds go to see what the angel had told them, and in verse 17, they spread the word. What can we learn from their responses? How can we follow their example of being eager to see what God is doing and sharing that message with others, especially this Christmas?