

"The entrance of Thy words giveth light..." (Ps 119:130a)

## The Lighthouse BULLETIN

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<u>Being Well</u>

<u>Pleasing in</u> 2017

Heb 13:21 "...working in you

that which is

wellpleasing in

His sight..."

# LIGHTHOUSE BBC HOLDS FAMILY CAMP FROM TUESDAY TO THURSDAY THIS WEEK

"Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others" (Phil 2:2-4).

he above words were written by the Apostle Paul to one of the churches which we, especially in our day, should emulate, the Philippian church. In fact, I can say that the church in Philippi is one of the churches which we find in the New Testament whose qualities are the things we pray will be seen in all our people.

In chapter 1, verses 10-11 of the epistle, we find the Apostle telling them, "That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God."

From the afternoon of Tuesday, Dec 26, until after lunch of Thursday, Dec 28, the Lighthouse BBC families will gather at the Mount Makiling Re-Creation Center in Sto. Tomas to hold our Lighthouse Family Camp 2017. It is during this kind of event that we talk about the great things that Lord had done throughout the year and also about about some things which we would like for the Lord to do in and through us the coming year. In all these things, we pray that what the Apostle Paul wrote to the Philippian church, as in our text above, be true in all of us as we do His work, that "we be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one



mind, not doing anything through strife or vainglory, having lowliness of mind, esteeming each other better than ourselves and every man and woman looking on the things of others."

We understand that we cannot be this way until we be able to first of all come together and be in one physical place. I still encourage more to join the camp.

Have a joyful celebration of the Lord's birth! - PRA



The people behind the All Lighthouse Ministries after the Christmas Party last Wednesday night. Praise God for the faithful work of each one of them!

Fourth Quarter Focus : Being Well Pleasing to God in all things

Col 1:10, "...walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God..."

"Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen" (Eph. 3:21)

#### TITLE : THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Text : Luke 2:8-20

#### INTRODUCTION

Only the Gospel of Luke records the announcement of the birth of Jesus to the shepherds in the field. As to why the announcement was first made to the shepherds, one Bible commentator writes, "these may have been the shepherds who supplied the lambs for the Temple sacrifices, performed for the forgiveness of sin; and they are now invited to greet the Lamb of God Who would take away the sin of the world."

#### A) Their watch (v8)

The term, "shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night" could not have been a time within which the birth of Christ is being celebrated today. It is known in the Judaean land that the sheep are kept out in the open country during the whole of summer until about the first rain around late October. "It was the Latin church which placed the birth of Christ on December 25, the very day on which the ancient Romans celebrated the feast of their goddess Brutus...Pope Julius I was the person who made this alteration (Adam Clarke)

This preacher is, however, convinced that the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ occured sometime between September and October.. Both the observation cited above and the reference to the ministry of Zacharias (a priest of the order of Abijah) seem to point to the said period.

### B) The revelation by the angel (vs 9-14)

 The reassurance by the angel The shepherds were terrified when suddenly the horizon was filled with God's glory, but they were given a reassurance by the angel, "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy..."

- 2) The revelation in regard to God's son. Three titles were given to Jesus in the angel's announcement: Saviour, Christ (the Messiah, the Annointed One) and Lord (Yahweh or God). Jesus is both God and man.
- 3) The revelation in regard to the sign "Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." Swaddling clothes were strips of cloth used to keep a baby warm and give it a sense of security. They were believed to protect its internal organs. The custom of swaddling infants is still practiced in many Eastern countries. A manger is a feeding trough for animals in a stall or stable. Tradition says that Jesus was born in a cave, in which case the manger may have been cut out of a rockwall.

#### C) Their resolve (v15)

The shepherds practically ran to see the baby born. They did not mind the time nor they allowed themselves to be hindered by anything. Their statement indicated the right time, the right place, and the right WATCH The LIGHTHOUSE CAFE TV TALK SHOW and MGA MUNTING ILAW every Saturday;



and **THE PULPIT**, featuring our Sunday morning services, every Sunday on GCTV, Ch 185 on CIGNAL. Both these programs are seen every 4am, 10am, 4pm and 10pm on said days. The **Mga** 



Munting Ilaw Kids Show is seen every Saturday and Sunday, 12n and 5pm. To view the programs in

YouTube, simply search for the Lighthouse BBC Channel. Also check the Great Commission TV FB Page.

purpose in seeing the baby.

#### D) Their report (v17-18)

It is wonderful how the shepherds became true witnesses of both the heavenly revelation and their association with the baby Jesus. Such should also be the reaction of every true believer who experiences the grace of God in salvation.

#### E) Their rejoicing (v20)

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them."



Clockwise from top left: The Children's Department and the Single Working People do their presentations; the Carolers as they record their song for release on GCTV; the Lighthouse Youth Fellowship as they presented during the gift-giving to youth; the 500 mothers receiving gifts; the cast of the Lighthouse film, DAPITHAPON during the preview of the movie.

"Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen" (Eph. 3:21)