

Closer to the Fire: Images of a Vibrant Community

**This Week's Image is *flock***

December 13, 2009

***Study Questions***

1. READ Psalm 23.
2. How does the Lord meet your needs? Can you say whether or not you “are in want?”
3. How does he lead you to “green pastures and still waters?” What are your resting places and how does the Shepherd prompt you to get there?
4. If he restores your soul, how so and from what? Is that restoration happening now? Why and how? If not, why not?
5. As he guides you into right living, do you find yourself getting there? Are there hesitations and resistances worth mentioning among friends? (Do you want to pause and pray for one another?)



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11. He promises life forever with Him. How does this give you courage or comfort today?

12. READ Luke 2:8-20.

13. The shepherds are frightened. Why? Would you be? Is this an appropriate response?

14. They listen and watch and take in the whole spectacle and the truth of what they are told. Are you a good listener, especially when God is making a presentation? How so?

15. The shepherds obey. They do exactly what they are told. How does obedience go with you? Are you slow or reticent at times? What times? Are you quick to jump and serve? Why?

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16. They tell their story. The word spreads because they aren't shy or embarrassed about what they've seen and heard, as fantastical as it must have sounded to others. Are you so bold? What would help you be that bold?

17. They glorified God. By their lives? By their words? Do you think they were able to sustain this? What became of the shepherds? Anyone want to surmise?