

## Advent at Cairns Road 2016 - "Unlikely Invitations"

The characters involved around the story of Jesus' birth stand out as obvious outsiders that God chose to include. During Advent we reflect on these characters to consider the Good News:

Nov 27 - Too old ? Zechariah and Elizabeth  
Dec 4 - Too insignificant ? Mary and Joseph  
Dec 11 - Too marginalised ? The shepherds  
Dec 18 - Too late ? Simeon and Anna

### **Week 3. The Shepherds - Too marginalised?**

Questions for further reflection on Luke 2:8-20

1. Why did God choose the shepherds to be the first group to announce the birth of the Saviour?
2. What should be our attitude to the marginalised?
3. Why are Christians slow at times to enjoy the reality and power of the "great joy" v11?
4. Why were these three names of Christ, Saviour, Lord given in the first announcement of the birth of Jesus?
5. What do these names mean for you today?
6. How would you define "great joy" and "peace"?
7. What steps would you suggest to someone who, knowing the Lord Jesus, has lost peace?
8. Who do you know in your life who is lacking peace and how may you best help them?
9. What do the shepherds model to us in their response to the announcement?
10. How will others know that you have received this peace from God?