

A Christmas Story

Scripture reference: Luke 2:16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Do you ever get excited about running? Luke told us that the shepherds were excited about their run as they went to find the baby that the angels had announced to them as they worked in the fields. I have to admit that the announcement of the Savior of the world being born is more exciting than someone saying "hey, let's go run 5 miles just for the fun of it."

Perhaps it is because I am looking for verses now that have to do with exercise that I notice things that I had never really seen before until now. This is one of those examples. Had you ever thought about shepherds actually running. Okay, perhaps if they were chasing after one of their sheep or maybe trying to scare off a predator. But I never really thought about them just taking off and running.

What kind of news would make you take off and run? Just pretend with me here. I know we would just jump in our car and not even give a second thought about lacing up the running shoes. If it was an emergency we would probably take off and run. I have to go help and get there fast. My friend or my family needs me now. But how many of us would take off and run for good news. I can't picture us saying to ourselves "I'm going run because my good friend or family member just got a raise" or "Let's go see the new baby so and so had." We would probably just say good for them and I will go see them later. When it is more convenient or when I have the time or when I can just walk.

But the shepherds had a once in a lifetime opportunity. Of course we know that Jesus was around for around thirty-three years so maybe it wasn't such a rush. But think about this, these shepherds like all of the Jews had been waiting for a messiah to be born. And the angels had appeared and sang that glorious news to them. I think we would have run too for that great news. Maybe we should think about running for Jesus today. It is still the best news out there.