

## Minister's Minute for Friday, January 13, 2017

### Ponder, Treasure and Consider

There are three words from the Christmas narrative in scripture that I am contemplating on into this New Year that we have entered. They are words that I believe are challenging to our instant gratification, instant response society. They may even be seen as counter-cultural as is the core of the Christian message.

The words are: Ponder, Treasure and Consider.

"...Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart" (Luke 2: 19) and "But after he (*Joseph*) had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him..." (Matthew 1: 20).

These may seem like innocuous words that we can easily read over and miss any significant implications for our way of choosing, deciding, or believing, yet they may be worth another look.

In the midst of the unimaginable events whirling around her, Mary took the time and dedicated space in her thought processes to ponder. Pondering means holding onto and systematically thinking through present circumstances while at the same time linking these events to past learning, knowledge and experience in order to set the conviction of her decisions on solid footings. Not only did she do this but she also treasured these things in her heart. She held them in the core of her being.

Joseph had considered his situation and made up his mind, then an extraordinary event happened that transformed the events of his life as he was able to see them.

How will we Ponder, Treasure and Consider the events and decisions of our life this year?