

ADVENT WEEK 3

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2: 10 - 11

CORE SCRIPTURE

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

LUKE 2: 8-14

DEFINING JOY

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,..."

Galatians 5:22

DISCOVERING REAL JOY – LESSONS FROM THE CHRISTMAS STORY

A. Joy is **PRESENT** when God is **PRESENT**.

The Shepherds

Mary & Joseph

King Herod

DISCOVERING REAL JOY – LESSONS FROM THE CHRISTMAS STORY

- A. Joy is PRESENT when God is PRESENT.
- B. Joy is **SENT** or **GIVEN** by God.

The Shepherds

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DISCOVERING REAL JOY – LESSONS FROM THE CHRISTMAS STORY

- A. Joy is **PRESENT** when God is **PRESENT**.
- B. Joy is **SENT** or **GIVEN** by God.
- C. Joy is a CHOICE.

The Shepherds

Mary & Joseph

King Herod

THE KEY TO MAINTAINING JOY

"As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

John 15:9-11

A. OBEY.

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John 15:9-11

- A. OBEY.
- B. REMAIN.

WHEN SHOULD WE BE JOYFUL?

ALWAYS

"Rejoice evermore"

1 Thessalonians 5:16

A. Appreciation for the CHARACTER OF GOD.

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- **B.** Appreciation for the WORK OF CHRIST.

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- **D. Appreciation for DIVINE PROVIDENCE.**

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- D. Appreciation for **DIVINE PROVIDENCE**.
- **E. Appreciation for the SCRIPTURES.**

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- F. Appreciation for **CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**.

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- G.Appreciation for the **PRIVILEGE OF WITNESSING**.

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Question – What are you joyful over?

