

Sunday Morning | December 17, 2017



CHRISTMAS IS JOY

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16 (NLT) "Always be joyful."

ROMANS 15:4 (TEV) "Everything written in the Scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope (joy) through the patience and encouragement which the Scriptures give us."

DEFINITION: Joy is the power from God to face anything.

TRUTH: Joy comes not for what you have but from knowing what can't be taken from you.

INSIGHT: The source of joy they had is also for us today (Romans 15:4).

QUESTION: Where do we find "joy"?

I. JOY IS NOW.

INSIGHT: If you can't find joy now, you won't find it, period (Luke 2:8-9).

TRUTH: Joy is not from what's around you, but from God with us in our present.

TRUTH: The source of joy for you is the same for me... that during ordinary days God can show up, and life becomes totally different.

II. JOY ISN'T MADE BUT SENT (Luke 2:10-12).

QUESTION: How do you find joy?

TRUTH: Joy isn't the absence of trouble but the presence of God in your life.

TRUTH: Christmas Joy is always sent, and it's offered to many but experienced personally.

TRUTH: Joy is sent, and then joy is shared.

TRUTH: People need good news and will listen when it's personal.

III. JOY IS A JOURNEY (Matthew 2:10; Psalm 30:5).

INSIGHT: Don't confuse joy with a quick fix.

TRUTH: The goal of life isn't a perpetual adrenaline rush, because joy doesn't require adrenaline (Psalm 148:13).

INVITATION: Luke 2:34

TRUTH: Someone here thinks they're saved, but they're not because they never let go to take hold of Jesus.