



Advent Week 3: JOY

Participate in these daily activities by yourself, with your family, with a friend. We pray that as we explore this week's gift of Peace our hearts would be preparing for the fullness of Christ's coming.

Sunday, December 13

Dig Deeper on this morning's Candle Lighting

Read: Philippians 4:4-9

Share: Share a time when it felt like you experienced joy, even when suffering.

Pray: Pray in thanksgiving for the gift of Joy: In Christ, our temporary sufferings are nothing compared to the surpassing Joy of being the beloved of Christ.

Monday, December 14

Memory Verse

Work on memorizing all or part of these verses today and this week.

Isaiah 51:11

"And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

Leveled options:

- For a change of vocabulary that might be easier for kids to understand, your kids can memorize the verse from the International Children's Bible (ICB) version.
- To shorten this scripture for little ones to memorize, focus on the first section of verse 11 of the International Children's Bible (ICB) version. "The people the Lord has feed will return. They will enter Jerusalem with joy."

Tuesday, December 15

Prayer Activity

Read through this prayer from this morning's Daily Prayer, and then build on it and make it personal to you or your family.

Luke 2:10

"And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.'"

"Lord Jesus, it feels like fear comes from every channel we flip on, every news story we hear, every whisper overheard. Life seems like one tragedy after another, with only brief periods of comfort. In this world, though, you bring joy. Our joy, rooted in you, casts out fear and returns our eyes to eternity. We are your people. You are our God. What have we to fear? Why are our faces downcast? Let us sing for joy, for you are God! Amen!"

(A prayerful Advent reflection of Joy on Luke 2:10)

Wednesday, December 16

Generosity Activity: Joy

Joy - It is easy to find when you are looking for it,
but almost sweeter when seen when you aren't expecting it.

Ideas for this week:

- Write an encouraging letter to a friend or family member.
- Call a loved one far away and tell them how much they mean to you.
- Leave post it notes with encouraging messages at work or home or public spaces.
- Write joyful tidings in chalk on sidewalk or neighbor's driveway.

Thursday, December 17

Theme Activity: Joy

Joy is something that we can all experience if we know Jesus. Joy doesn't depend upon what language we speak, where we worship, or our circumstances. We can experience joy because it is rooted in who God is and what He has done. Think of how this unites all believers! Do a quick internet search and listen to international Christmas music from a place you've never been. Dance joyfully in worship to our King! Celebrate the diversity of all who celebrate Jesus' birth in different languages and different cultures.

Friday, December 18

Song Celebration

Listen to "King of Kings" by Hillsong Worship
Sing along, think intentionally about the lyrics and
praise God for the joy we have in him!

Saturday, December 19

Sabbath Activity

Find a quiet place, take some deep breaths, and spend five minutes thinking through Joy in light of our Savior. If you are doing this as a family, we encourage each member to do this and then come back together and talk about anything they experienced in this practice of meditating on the Lord.