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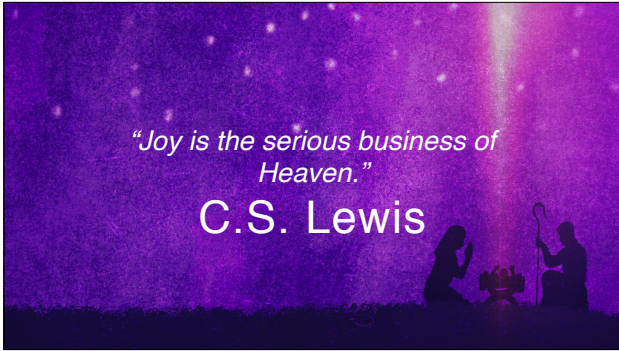
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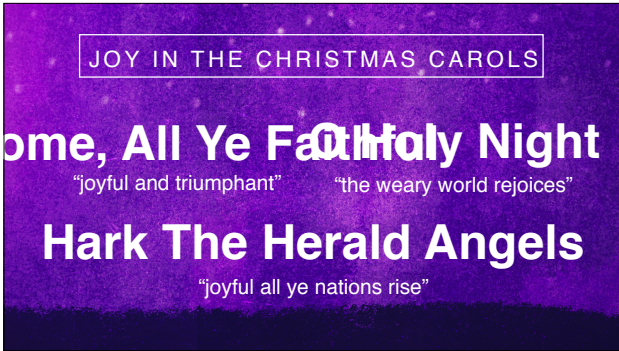
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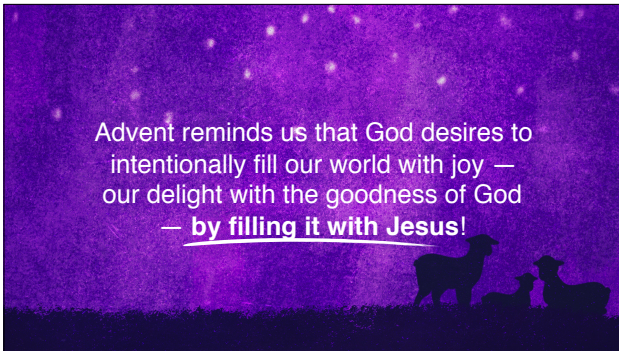
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JOY IN THE CHRISTMAS STORY

**Luke 1:14** "You will have **joy**, and many will rejoice at [your son's] birth."

**Luke 1:44** "The baby leaped for **joy** in his mother's womb."

**Luke 1:47** "Mary **rejoiced** in God her Savior."

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# Confusing Happiness With Joy

**Happiness** is dependent upon happenings—our circumstances.

**Joy** is an internal reality because it is based on an eternal truth.



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## Luke 2:8-11

Shepherds were in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks at night. An angel appeared and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born for you; Christ the Lord."



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DISCOVER JOY

# 1

I must base my joy on prophetic truth.

"Born today in the city of David."

Unquenchable joy is rooted



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JOY EXERCISE #1

1. Verbally acknowledge prophetic truth by declaring, *"God is speaking to me."*
2. Immediately obey it; prophetic truth is always a call to action.

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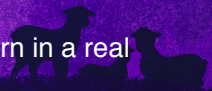
DISCOVER JOY

2

I must base my joy in historical reality.

*"Unto you is born this day in the city of*

There was a real baby born in a real



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JOY EXERCISE #2



On a map app, locate Bethlehem, Israel.

- Listen to "O Little Town of Bethlehem" and as an affirmation of faith, rejoice.
- Read "The Case for Christmas" by Lee



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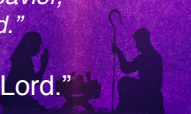
DISCOVER JOY

3

I must base my joy in redemptive activity.

*"Born to you this day is a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."*

Literally, "Savior, Christ, Lord."



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# Savi

One who delivers his people.

*"Give him the name Jesus for he will save his people from their sins."*

Matthew 1:21

# Chri

The anointed one; Messiah.

*"In him we have redemption."*

Ephesians 1:7

# Lord

Deity; a synonym for God.

*"He will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"*

Luke 1:33

## JOY EXERCISE #3

Daily pray this simple prayer for Christmas joy.

*"Jesus, you are Savior—through you all my sins are gone. Jesus you are Lord—sovereign over all that will happen in my life today—good or bad. And Jesus, you are Christ—God's anointed for my life. For that, I choose to be joyful in you. Amen."*



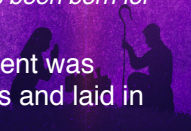
DISCOVER JOY

4

I must base my joy in personal acceptance.

*"Today in Bethlehem a Savior has been born for*

The best Christmas present was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in



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JOY EXERCISE #4

My Personal Declaration

*"Christ for me—he came and was born, he died and rose again, and he's returning for me."*

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Make the choice to rejoice!

*"The more we enjoy of Jesus, the more we will be ravished with delight."*

Thomas Watson



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God is with You

PART 3

Make The Choice to Rejoice



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