



Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

Sermon Based Questions

Date- Sunday 25th December 2020

Series- Advent Words- Joy

(Luke 2:1-14)

Advent Words: "Joy"

10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12

- **A Good mood has many words- Joy, happiness celebration, gladness- the bible too has many words for joy. Joy is a theme.**

- **Christmas is a time of joy and rejoicing and its not.**

- **Life is not one long "joy fest," but Christian faith means that joy can be had in any season. Joy invincible.**

- **Rejoice in Creation. Ps. 65:11-12.**

- **Rejoice in God himself. Neh. 8:9-11.**

- **Rejoice in redemption. Exod 15:1-11 & Ps. 105:43.**

- **Rejoice in the Messiah. Luke 2:10.**

- **Rejoice amidst hardship in service. Phil 1:25 & 3:1.**

A. Examining the texts.

1. Read Luke 2:1-21. What does this reveal to us about joy? What is its source and where can it be found?
2. Read Psalm 65:11-12. What does the Psalmist rejoice in?
3. Read Neh. 8:9-11. Why did Nehemiah advocate rejoicing in the Lord- what do you think it means to say: "the joy of the Lord will be your strength?"
4. Read Exodus 15:1-11 and Psalm 105:41-43. What were the people to rejoice in and what had God done for them?
5. Read Luke 2:10. Why is the message of Christmas a message of good news and great joy for all people?
6. Read Phil. 1:25 and Phil. 3:1. What does Paul say to this church and why does he say it?

B. Meditation & application

7. Is Christmas a time of joy or pain for you? How could your faith give you joy in this and every season?
8. Think about the things that the scripture says are the basis of joy. How are these things invincible and not based on circumstances?
9. How could you learn to rejoice in this and every season? Do you think this is possible and if so how can we become more resilient in our joy?

Dear Heavenly Father. May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace as we trust in him, so that we may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Help us to be people who rejoice always, give thanks in everything and pray continually, rejoicing in our God. Amen.