



Joy to the World
Message 2

Joshua J. Masters
December 13, 2020

► **Outline**

... the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring joy to all people."
Luke 2:10 (NLT)

A. Introduction: Good Tidings of Great Joy
(Luke 2:8-11)

B. Experiencing true joy overcomes...

1. Unfulfilled _____ . (The Joy of Mary)
(Luke 1:26-33. C/R: Luke 1:38,46-48; 2:34-35)

2. Uncertain _____ . (The Joy of the Magi)
(Matthew 2:9-10. C/R: Exodus 13:21-22; Psalm 23:4; Matthew 2:1-12)

3. Unchanging _____ . (The Joy of the Shepherds)
(Luke 2:17-18,20. C/R: Micah 4:8; Matthew 6:1-4; Luke 2:8-20)

C. Discovering the joy of Christmas
(Luke 1:39-44. C/R: Psalm 16:11; Matthew 2:3,16; Galatians 5:22)

Answers: 1. dreams 2. journeys 3. circumstances

Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.



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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit brookwoodchurch.org/adults.

Conversation Starter

What brings you joy?

Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Ask God to help you experience His love and hear His voice as you reflect on this week's lesson.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Biblical joy: a positive state of being, like contentment or satisfaction, produced by the Holy Spirit.

Read [Luke 1:26-38](#).

1. How would you feel if an angel appeared and said, *The Lord is with you*?
2. Which of Mary's responses indicate she may not have been experiencing joy at that moment? Why do you think so?
3. Which of Mary's responses indicate she was experiencing joy? Explain.
4. What is the source of Mary's joy in this passage?

Read [Luke 1:39-45](#).

5. Verse 44 says that the baby in Elizabeth's womb *jumped for joy*. What was the source or cause of the baby's joy?
6. What phrases spoken by Elizabeth indicate the Holy Spirit revealed things to her she didn't already know?

7. What was Mary's step to receiving the joy God wanted to give her?
8. What is hindering you from experiencing the joy God wants to give you?
9. What step can you take to experience God's joy this Christmas season?

Spiritual Practice

Spiritual Practices help us experience the Holy Spirit's work in our lives. They're meant to be more than one-time actions, becoming a natural part of our lives.

The words and presence of the Holy Spirit were sources of joy in this story of Mary and Elizabeth. **Thank God for being with you, and ask Him which word or phrase He wants you to remember when you read a Scripture passage.** Try it with today's study passage, [Luke 1:26-45](#).

Memory Verse

You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of Your presence and the pleasures of living with You forever. [Psalm 16:11 \(NLT\)](#)

Daily Reading

- Day 1: [Luke 1:26-38](#) Day 4: [Matthew 2:1-12](#)
Day 2: [Luke 1:39-45](#) Day 5: [James 1:2-4](#)
Day 3: [Psalm 16:1-11](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Sunday, December 20, we'll continue the *Experiencing Christmas* series with a message on *Peace*. To prepare, read [Isaiah 9:6](#), [Micah 5:5](#) and [Luke 2:13-14](#).



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