

JOY FOR ALL

KING | DECEMBER 15, 2024

Luke 1:46-55—*Then Mary said, “My soul praises the Lord; my heart is happy because God is my Savior. I am not important, but God has shown his care for me, his servant girl. From now on, all people will say that I am blessed, because the Powerful One has done great things for me. His name is holy. God will always give mercy to those who worship him. God’s arm is strong. He scatters the people who are proud and think great things about themselves. God brings down rulers from their thrones, and he raises up the humble. God fills the hungry with good things, but he sends the rich away with nothing. God has helped his people Israel who serve him. He gave them his mercy. God has done what he promised to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his children forever.”*

MAIN POINT

**Only a good God makes JOY
central to following Him.**

WHAT TO REMEMBER ABOUT JOY

1. Joy is more than not being sad.

Galatians 5:22-23—*But the Spirit gives love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. There is no law that says these things are wrong.*

2. Joy comes from en-JOY-ing God.

John 15:11—I have told you these things so that you can have the same joy I have. I want your joy to be the fullest joy.

3. Real joy changes our actions.

Romans 15:13—I pray that the God who gives hope will fill you with much joy and peace while you trust in him. Then your hope will overflow by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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All verses quoted in International Children's Bible version unless otherwise noted.

Rewatch today's message and more on our website at bcachurch.com/messages.

STUDY GUIDE: 12/15/24

Begin your group with prayer. Have one or two people share a testimony from their week. Keep it positive and reflect on the good things God has done.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. ***Reflect on Joy in the Season***

What brings you the most joy during the Christmas season? How does this align with or differ from the joy that comes from God?

2. ***Transformation Through Joy***

Why do stories about grumpy or angry people transforming into joyful people resonate so deeply with us? How has God's joy transformed your attitude or actions in the past?

3. ***Understanding God's Joy***

Mary celebrated God's goodness and provision in Luke 1:46-55. How can her example of joy in God's promises inspire your faith during difficult times?

4. ***Joy Beyond Circumstances***

Galatians 5:22-23 describes joy as a fruit of the Spirit. How do you experience joy that isn't based on circumstances but on God's presence in your life?

5. ***En-JOY-ing God***

John 15:11 talks about having fullness of joy through abiding in Christ. What practical steps can you take to find deeper joy in your relationship with God?

6. ***Living Out Joy Together***

Romans 15:13 encourages us to trust in God for overflowing joy and hope. How can we as a group help each other live out God's joy in our community?

Let's reflect together on how we can prepare room in our hearts for God's joy, just as the song "Joy to the World" reminds us.