



ADVENT Week 3 – Joy

SERMON POINTS

Joy Came Down

1. We assume that joy is found in our happiness and success.
2. At Christmas, we discover the source of joy is Jesus, who came to give His life for us.

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 2: 1-8

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. During the Christmas season, what experiences bring you joy verses happiness? What distracts you from experiencing the true source of joy?
2. Jesus' birth was a massive step down from his exalted position to the lowest, even dying the death of a slave. What part of the journey down that Paul describes in Philippians 2:6-8 is the most impactful to you? Why?
3. This Christmas, how will you find your joy in Jesus coming down to give you life? What obstacles in your life might be hindering that joy? How can we pray for you?
4. Read through Luke 2:1-12 and spend time praying that we will look to Jesus for our joy and help others look to Him alone for their source of joy.