

Outline – December 19, 2021
Luke 2:8-11; Philippians 1:3-11
What Child Is This: Part 3

The Pursuit Of Happiness Is A Reality Of Life

- I. The hope of Christmas joy**
 - A. The songs we sing
 - B. The desire of our heart
 - C. The reality of our culture
 - D. The scrooges/grinches of our lives
- II. The angelic declaration**
 - A. Good news
 - B. Great joy
 - C. All people
 - D. Savior, Messiah, Lord is born
- III. God is about joy**
 - A. The great misconception
 - B. The truth of His word
 - 1. 2,700 times the word joy, blessed, happy, fortunate is used
 - 2. Joy and Jesus together
 - C. Jesus brought love into the world
 - D. Joy and love go together
 - E. Joy comes in the person of Messiah
 - 1. Joy is a result of love
 - 2. As Jesus becomes a part of your story, so does joy
- IV. The recipients of the announcement**
 - A. Shepherds
 - 1. Representing the humble
 - 2. Representing the faithful
 - 3. Representing the willing
 - B. Believing, receiving, demonstrated
- V. The results of Joy**
 - A. Rejoicing, worshiping, laughter
 - B. Love
 - 1. Beyond your won
 - 2. Reflects God's Love
 - C. Service
 - 1. With others
 - 2. Creates connection
 - D. Sacrifice
 - 1. He paid the ransom
 - 2. Go the extra mile
 - E. New identity (How we see ourself)
 - 1. Sin defines our activity, but doesn't define our identity in church
 - 2. Sin may explain your behaviors or your response, but it doesn't explain who you are in Christ
 - 3. There is a difference between what you do and who you are

4. Identity is based on who Jesus says I am and who he redeems us to be
5. You may sin some of the time, but as believers we are children of God all the time
6. There is a difference between having sin and being sin
7. The difference between being a believer and non-believer

VI. The Savior was born

- A. To redeem us from sin
- B. To give us victory over it
- C. To give us a new identity
- D. Though we may have had a dark past, because of Jesus we have a bright future
- E. We start looking more like Jesus
- F. As we work from our new identity (no longer work for an identity)
- G. Joy comes from our new connections
 1. A new family in Christ
 2. New attachments push back the loneliness

VII. What joy says

- A. A new mindset can be yours
 1. Focus more on Jesus
 2. Focus less on circumstances
- B. A new purpose can be yours
 1. Bigger than any pain
 2. Bigger than my problem
- C. We can let go of the past grudges, mistakes, and failures
- D. Joy is given by God's Spirit working in us
- E. Joy is given that we may enjoy blessings, people, opportunities
- F. Joy comes through Jesus
 1. The Savior – saves
 2. The Messiah – redeems
 3. The Lord - leads

VIII. The progression of joy

- A. Begins when we believe in Him
- B. Matures as we know Him
- C. Results are noticed as we obey Him
- D. Life becomes more meaningful as we love Him
- E. Blessings abound as we serve Him
- F. Changes happen in life as we follow Him
- G. Joy unspeakable as we seek to enjoy Him

**Angel Declared
Good News, Great Joy
All People**

**Savior, Messiah, Lord
Saves, Redeems, Loves**

That Is Who Was Born