

## Week 3 - Choose Joy

**JOY is:** "The settled assurance that God is in control of every detail in my life, the quiet confidence that ultimately everything will be all right, and the determined choice to praise God in all things." From "Choose Joy", by Kay Warren

"If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up."

Daniel 3:17-18 (NLT)

"...the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Nehemiah 8:10 (NIV)

## Choose joy when

...God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God!"

Luke 1:26-30 (NLT)

Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." ...

Luke 1:38 (NLT)

"My spirit finds its joy in God, my Savior," ...

Luke 1:47 (GW)

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• Luke 2:8-20 (NLT)

## Choose joy when \_\_\_\_\_

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all.

Isaiah 53:6 (NLT)

"If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders. When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!"

Luke 15:4-7 (NLT)

"For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

Luke 19:10 (NLT)

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, ...

Psalm 51:12 (NLT)

## **Recommended Resources**

- · Choose Joy, by Kay Warren
- The Case for Christmas, by Lee Strobel
- · The Purpose of Christmas, by Rick Warren

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