

# The Gift of Joy

## The Gifts of Christmas: Part 2

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### Luke 2:8–10 (NLT)

<sup>8</sup> That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep.

<sup>9</sup> Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, <sup>10</sup> but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring **great joy to all people**."



## JOY ROBBERS

1. CONFLICT.
2. COMPLAINING.
3. COMPARING.
4. CONTROL.



## How to Experience Christmas Joy

### 1. JOY IS FOUND WITH THE RIGHT PEOPLE.

*"Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy...So it is right that I should feel as I do about all of you, for you have a special place in my heart..." (Philippians 1:3–7, NLT)*

**ACTION:** SURROUND.

### 2. JOY IS FOUND IN THE RIGHT PATTERN.

*"Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had." (Philippians 2:3–5, NLT)*

**ACTION:** SERVE.

### 3. JOY IS FOUND IN THE RIGHT PRIORITIES.

*"I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ" (Philippians 3:7–8, NLT)*

**ACTION:** SIMPLIFY.

### 4. JOY IS FOUND IN THE RIGHT PURSUIT.

*"Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice!...Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:4–7, NLT)*

**ACTION:** SURRENDER.