

# The Sounds of Christmas

## Part 3: The Shout of Joy

**BIG Idea:** Joy is the natural response when we recognize God is at work—and the right response is to rejoice out loud.

**Application:** Let the joy of Jesus overflow in your life—and don't keep it quiet.

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### 1. Joy is a Holy Spirit response.

#### **Luke 1:39-45 (NLT) Mary Visits Elizabeth**

<sup>39</sup> A few days later Mary hurried to the hill country of Judea, to the town <sup>40</sup> where Zechariah lived. She entered the house and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> At the sound of Mary's greeting, Elizabeth's child leaped within her, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

<sup>42</sup> Elizabeth gave a glad cry and exclaimed to Mary, "God has blessed you above all women, and your child is blessed. <sup>43</sup> Why am I so honored, that the mother of my Lord should visit me? <sup>44</sup> When I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. <sup>45</sup> You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said."

#### **Luke 1:46-56 (NLT) The Magnificat: Mary's Song of Praise**

<sup>46</sup> Mary responded, "Oh, how my soul praises the Lord.

<sup>47</sup> How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

<sup>48</sup> For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and from now on all generations will call me blessed.

<sup>49</sup> For the Mighty One is holy, and he has done great things for me.

<sup>50</sup> He shows mercy from generation to generation to all who fear him.

<sup>51</sup> His mighty arm has done tremendous things! He has scattered the proud and haughty ones.

<sup>52</sup> He has brought down princes from their thrones and exalted the humble.

<sup>53</sup> He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away with empty hands.

<sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel and remembered to be merciful.

<sup>55</sup> For he made this promise to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and his children forever."

<sup>56</sup> Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back to her own home.

## **2. Joy overflows into praise.**

Philippians 4:4 (NLT)

<sup>4</sup> “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!”

Real joy doesn't stay quiet — it is a declaration!

## **3. Joy trusts God's promise, even before it's fulfilled.**

2 Corinthians 4:13,18 (NIV)

<sup>13</sup> “It is written: ‘I believed; therefore I have spoken.’ Since we have some of that spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak

<sup>18</sup> So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

**Joy isn't based on what we see — it's based on what God has promised.**