

BEST CHRISTMAS EVER!

December 12th , 2021— “Abiding Joy“

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, AND SERVE THE WORLD

Psalms 30:5 Weeping may last through the night, but **joy** comes with the morning.

True Joy is not based upon things or circumstance.
It is based upon our relationship with Jesus.

Psalms 42:4

✦ Joy is an **inner** feeling. Happiness is an **outward** expression.

✦ A person **pursues** happiness but **chooses** joy.

“There are moments when I wish I could roll back the clock and take all the sadness away, but I have the feeling that if I did, the joy would be gone as well.” ~Nicholas Sparks

✦ Joy comes from the Holy Spirit, abiding in God's presence and from hope in His Word.

✦ God's Joy is not based on material circumstances, but instead is based on His presence in our lives.

1. Joy is a gift of the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Peter 1:8

✦ We will find peace within our souls, as we commit ourselves to God.

Isaiah 9:6-7, John 16:32-33

2. Joy is uncontainable.

Luke 2:8-15

✦ Rejoice is to return to joy. Returning to joy is a choice we must be willing to make.

3. Joy is an opportunist.

✦ Allow the joy of the Lord to exploit your circumstances to gain immediate advantage over the enemy's plan to defeat you emotionally.

Philippians 4:4-7, Psalm 51:10-12

“I know now, Lord, why you utter no answer. You yourself are the answer. Joy is the serious business of Heaven”. ~ C.S. Lewis

Psalms 43:4 There I will go to the altar of God, to God—the source of all my joy.

*all verses taken from the New Living Translation unless otherwise noted.