SERMON GUIDE

Joy Is Born



Matthew 2:10-12 • Series: The Story of Christmas • Adam Bailie • December 16, 2018

Big Idea

Christmas joy is recognizable, internal gladness found only in Jesus.

Outline

Christmas joy shows when...

- 1. I see Jesus biblically (10).
- 2. I worship Jesus passionately (11).
- 3. I give to Jesus extravagantly (11).
- 4. I go for Jesus knowingly (12).

Reflect

- When are you most tempted to find your joy in something other than Christ?
- How are you throttling passionate worship of Jesus in your life? What needs to change?
- What's one way your overflowing joy in Jesus needs to affect your relationships?
- We talk about the things we're most joyful and passionate about. What keeps you from talking about Jesus?
- How does your personal giving evidence your joy in Jesus?

Pray

- Pray for the joy of your heart to be more profoundly anchored to the person and work of Jesus.
- "Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit" (Psalm 51:12).
- Pray that your Christmas joy would be evident in every part of life.
- Pray for opportunities to show the radical generosity of God in your own generous giving this Christmas.
- Pray for opportunities to share with others your exceeding joy.

Discuss

- Christmas joy isn't Christmas cheer. What's the difference?
- "The more biblical we are in our thinking about Christmas, the more joy will we experience in the celebration of Christmas." Why is this the case?
- What's the connection between the exceeding joy of the wise men and their passionate worship of him? Why is joy such an important part of worship?
- Christians should be the happiest people on the planet. Agree or disagree? Why?
- Do you ever doubt God wants you to be joyful? Why? How does the gospel remind you of God's radical commitment to your joy?