

**The Greatest Gift**  
**Pt. 3, The Gift of Joy**  
**Pastor TW Norman**

Luke 2:8-11 “That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. 9 Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord’s glory surrounded them. They were terrified, 10 but the angel reassured them. “Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. 11 The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!”

**I. Joy is Independent of Situations**

Luke 1:46-47 (NLT) “Mary said; Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. How my spirit rejoices in God my savior!”

Psalm: 16:11 “You will make known to me the way of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; In your right hand there re pleasures forevermore.”

**II. Joy is a response to God’s Goodness.**

Philippians 1:6 “For I am confident of this very thing, that he who began a good with in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.”

**III. Joy is a Choice in Trials**

James1:2-4 “Consider it all joy when you encounter various trials. 3 knowing the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete lacking in nothing.”

5 Practical ways to Choose Joy in Hardship:

- a) Practice Gratitude in the Pain
- b) Lean on God’s promises Daily
- c) Speak Truth to Your Soul
- d) Serve or Bless Someone else
- e) Surround Yourself with voices of Faith

**IV. Joy Spreads when Celebrated**

Luke 2:10b “Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people.”

**V. Do Something (application)**

- a) Make a list of things you can have joy for
- b) Choose Joy intentionally (don’t wait for a feeling, make the choice)
- c) Spread joy by blessing someone unexpectedly
- d) Invite Jesus into your struggle

## **Conclusion**

- Joy is not a feeling we wait for it is a gift we receive
- Rejoice even when life is uncertain
- Choose Joy in the middle of difficulties
- Joy is found in God's presence
- Jesus, the living embodiment of God's promise reminds us that Joy is for all people