

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.

Discussion Questions

Icebreaker: When you hear the word *joy*, what's the first image, memory, or sound that comes to mind?

1. What's the difference between happiness and the kind of joy we see in Mary and Elizabeth?
2. The sermon describes joy as a Holy Spirit response. What does that tell us about where real joy comes from?
3. Mary sings about things God has promised but hasn't yet completed. Where do you find that challenging — or freeing — in your own faith?
4. How does fixing our eyes on what is unseen (review 2 Corinthians 4) help us navigate uncertainty, disappointment, or fear?
5. In what ways can joy become a declaration of faith?
6. The sermon says joy isn't glitter—it's grit. Where have you seen joy expressed through perseverance rather than ease?
7. How does praise help joy grow, even when life feels heavy?
8. What tends to "quiet" your joy—fear, comparison, disappointment, exhaustion?
9. Where might God be inviting you to trust His promises more deeply right now?
10. What is one practical way you can let your joy be more visible this week—through words, actions, or worship?

Prayer Prompt: Pray together that God would anchor your joy in His promises, help you trust Him while you wait, and allow your lives — and your community — to reflect His goodness through praise, courage, and hope.

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