

Gift of Christmas

The Gift of JOY

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The time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds living in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

Luke 2:6b-8 NIV

But the angel said to them "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2: 10-11 NIV

TO MAKE THE MOST OF MY JOY JOURNEY...

1. Focus on _	GIVING	rather thar
RECEIM	NG .	

"There is more happiness in giving than in receiving." **Acts 20:35b GNT**

Learn to put aside your own desires so that you will become patient and godly...This will make possible the next step, which is for you to enjoy other people and to like them, and finally you will grow to love them deeply.

2 Peter 1:6a, 7 TLB

With joy they should tell what He has done.

Psalm 107:22b NCV

2. Focus on HEALING rather than HURTING.

Be gentle and ready to forgive; never hold grudges. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

Colossians 3:13 TLB

We can be full of joy here and now even in our trials and troubles... These very things will give us patient endurance; this in turn will develop a mature character.

Romans 5:3b, 4a PH

3. Focus on _	TRUST	rather than
DOUBT		

Trust in (God) at all times. Pour out your heart to him, for God is our refuge.

Psalm 62:8b NLT

I will go to ... God—the source of all my joy.

Psalm 43:4 NLT

Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy.

1 Peter 1:8b NLT

I have told you this so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your cup of joy will overflow!

John 15:11 TLB

Weekend Music: