

WELLSPRING

WORSHIP CENTER

Advent Joy 12/15/2024 Reflection Questions:

1. In your life, what is the difference between happiness and joy?
2. Regarding Paul telling us to “Rejoice always,” discuss the statement: “Joy does not happen by chance, but by choice.” If joy is a choice, how can we “rejoice in the Lord” when there are still challenges in our lives and personal weaknesses we are facing?
3. Were you surprised that Peter wrote in 1 Peter 3:10, “for the one who loves life”? In your Christian walk, do you feel like you have permission to “love life”?
4. What did Jesus mean when He prayed that His followers would have the “full measure of His joy within them”?
5. What specific uncertainties and risks did Mary face when the angel spoke to her?
6. What does Mary mean when she says her spirit “finds its joy in God, my Savior”? Why is it significant that Mary’s joy is directed toward God rather than her situation.”
7. What does Mary teach us about trusting God when obedience makes life harder, not easier?
8. What would it look like to rejoice in God rather than in outcomes in your own life? How might embracing Mary’s posture of surrender open the door to deeper joy?
9. Discuss these statements:
 - a. Joy comes from surrender, not from control.
 - b. Mary’s joy was anchored in God, not in outcomes.
 - c. Joy is not the absence of uncertainty; Joy is the presence of God in uncertainty.