

Sermon Notes

Good News of Great Joy
Luke 1:68-75, 2:10-12

Clay Edens
December 10, 2017

Big Idea:

Great JOY is found in experiencing the good news of Jesus.

False Distinctions

Attitude vs Emotion

Joy vs. Happiness

Goodness is that in God which desires the happiness of His creatures and that irresistible urge in God to bestow blessedness. The goodness of God takes pleasure in the pleasure of His people.... For a long time it has been drummed into us that if we are happy, God is worried about us. We believe He's never quite pleased if we are happy. But the strict true teaching of the Word is that God takes pleasure in the pleasure of His people, provided His people take pleasure in God. – A.W. Tozer

Good News

Redemption(v. 68)

Defeat of Enemies (v.71)

Holiness Enabled(v.74-75)

Cultivate Joy

Meditate on the Good News

Celebrate the Good News

Eat, Party, Sing, Dance, & Rest

Questions for Reflection/Discussion:

As always feel free to tweak, skip, or add questions to focus on areas you think most relevant to your group.

1. What are some of the things that bring you joy during the Christmas season?
2. What was your understanding of joy coming into this message? How would you have explained the concept to another?
3. What is the difference between an attitude and an emotion? Why is it important to see joy as both?
4. Read through the Tozer quote again, what stands out to you from his words?
5. Evaluate the statement, "God wants me to be happy." What is true about it? How could it be misconstrued?
6. What part of the good news of Jesus is currently bringing you the most joy?
7. What do you see as the relationship between holiness and joy?
8. What do you do personally or with your family to meditate on God's word during the Christmas season?
9. To what degree to your Christmas parties and activities point people to Jesus? How might Jesus be reflect more in them?