

### **WELCOME TO SOUTHEAST**

Southeast provides relational environments where you can find **Jesus, community, and purpose**.

#### **GET CONNECTED**

God created us for community. If you are interested in serving, participating in a life group, or would like more information about an upcoming event, visit **southeastcc.org** or send an email to **connect@southeastcc.org**.

#### **NEED PRAYER?**

We are honored to pray with you or for you. Join us after services to pray with someone at southeastcc.org. You may also submit a prayer request at southeastcc.org/prayer.

# ADVENT | A TALE OF TWO KINGDOMS | JOY

## NOTES | 12.11.22

### **Luke 2:8-14 English Standard Version (ESV)**

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

How do we find real joy in the Advent?

#### 1. PERSPECTIVE

#### James 1:2-4 | ESV

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

#### 2. OBJECT OF AFFECTION

## **Temporary Pleasures:**

#### 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 | ESV

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

## Luke 8:4-15 | ESV

And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.' Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

#### 2 John 12 | ESV

Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink. Instead I hope to come to you and talk face to face, so that our joy may be complete.

#### 3 John 4 | ESV

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

## 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 | ESV

For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? For you are our glory and joy.

#### 3. SOURCE

## Galatians 5:22-23 | ESV

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

## Luke 1:43-45 | ESV

And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

## **IMPLICATIONS**

- 1. Where we look for Joy says so much about whether or not we will find it.
- 2. Our perspective on circumstances is key to grasping Joy.
- 3. We cannot go to the world for things that only God can provide.
- 4. Real Joy is evidence that we are spending time with Jesus.





