

"The Gifts of Christmas: Indescribable Joy"

Luke 1: 39-56; 2:1-21

The joy of Christmas will always be found,
not in presents, but in His presence.

**Though sorrow may last for a night,
joy comes in the morning!**

J _____ is where our joy must _____ and ____!

- Jesus is the _____ for the season so why not center everything around Him?!
- Jesus is the _____ One who is always present.
- Jesus is the _____ One who will "make all things new."

*It is impossible to make too much of
Jesus...but will you try?!*

O _____ make our joy _____.

- Others _____ our joy and _____ our sorrow.
- Others reveal the _____ of _____ and the _____ of _____.

Who is in your "tribe" that makes your joy complete?

Y _____ will always be the _____ to joy...because it is your _____ that makes the _____!

- _____ your current _____ attitude.
- _____ how you typically _____ to life's events.
- _____ in yourself by ensuring your life is full of _____, _____, and _____ habits that promote joy!

How responsible do you feel for your own joy?

"Christmas Joy"

by Ellwood Haines Stokes

What a joyful hour to our sin-cursed earth.
When the tidings came of a Saviour's birth.
And the heart's warm pulse beat stronger still.
As the song was heard of Heaven's good will.

What a joyful hour! cried the sons of night.
For, as Jesus spoke, there was instant light;
And the exile heard, in that new-born day,
Of a home in heaven and a blissful way.

What a joyful hour, when the dumb could speak,
And the palsied arm was no longer weak;
When the sick could rise from their bed of pain,
And the halt and lame were restored again.

What a joyful hour, when the Saviour spoke,
And the slumbering dead from their graves awoke.
When the Prince of Life, through death's dark domain,
Sent the warm blood back to the heart again.

But there comes an hour, far more joyful still,
When the good man's soul shall with rapture thrill;
When his eyes shall glow with the fire of love.
As he leaves this world for his home above.

A more joyful hour, when life's tide is crossed.
And the roar of its surge in the skies is lost;
When our toils are o'er, and our exile past,
And we rest in the smile of our God at last.

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace
in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit
you may abound in hope." (Romans 15:13)*