

When We Come Back

Talk Sheet

The Arrival of Joy

Introduction:

JOY. What is joy? How do we get joy? Why is it important? Jesus is joy. His coming brought joy that remains in each person who believes in Him. God has given each believe a joy that no one can take away. This is a joy that we have until Christ returns.

Talk Points:

- The third Advent candle is pink and represents Joy. This candle reveals a shift in the season of Advent away from repentance and toward celebration.
- Why is the candle pink? No one knows the real reason but there is a tradition that priests would wear pink vestments when visiting parents eagerly awaiting the joy of a child's birth.
- This is also known as the Shepherd Candle to highlight the joy the shepherds experienced when they heard about Jesus from some angels.
- While we wait for Christ to come again, we don't have to despair.

Things To Ponder:

- During the middle of the night, in the darkest time, the shepherds encountered angels who told them of something that will cause great joy for ALL the people.
- Joy is extreme happiness that can't be ruined by circumstances. Happiness is situational, joy isn't.
- God has given us a joy that no one can take away.

Apply What You Heard:

Do you experience JOY or is that tough for you?

How can you experience joy this Christmas? How can you help others experience JOY?

Reflect:

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

Philippians 4:4-5