

Joy Unspeakable

Sounds of the Season

Week 4 - Shout

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and
nature sing*

Psalm 98:4-6 (NIV)

⁴ Shout for joy to the Lord,
all the earth,
burst into jubilant song
with music;
⁵ make music to the Lord
with the harp,
with the harp and the
sound of singing,
⁶ with trumpets and the blast
of the ram's horn—
shout for joy before
the Lord, the King.

JOY: [Greek] - χαίρω (chara)
:: a deep abiding delight
:: a feeling of inner rejoicing
:: gladness not based on circumstances



**True joy is based
in a [SOMEONE](#),
not a [SOMETHING](#).**

"If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." [John 15:10-11]

"Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete." [John 16:24]

"I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them." [John 17:13]



Joy is a gift to be [RECEIVED](#).

1 Peter 1:3-9 (NIV)

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

John 16:22

Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.

John 16:20-21

I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy.

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.

Psalm 100:1-3a (NLT)

Shout with joy to the Lord,
all the earth!
Worship the Lord with
gladness.
Come before him, singing
with joy.
Acknowledge that
the Lord is God!
He made us,
and we are his.

Joy is always an [OPTION](#).



How do you need to prepare
[HIM](#) room?

Notes:

*Joy to the world, the Savior reigns
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.*



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How to start a relationship with God:

- 1) Admitting that you, like everyone, are in need of rescue.
- 2) Asking God to forgive your sins.
- 3) Saying YES to God by trusting Jesus as Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to look to you and follow you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.



For Further Reflection:

:: What is something God has been speaking to you about through our Advent journey & “Joy Unspeakable” series?

:: Discuss the different definitions of joy.

- :: Which do you identify with most? Why?
- :: Who do you know that lives a joy-filled life?
- :: Why do you think that is?

:: Reread 1 Peter 1:3-9.

- :: What does it tell us about Jesus? Joy?
- :: Why do you think “biblical” joy is different?
- :: What are some things that interfere with being able to have joy?
- :: What are things that rob us of our joy?

:: If true joy is not dependent upon circumstances, what does that mean for how we can live today? Tomorrow?

:: What is one thing you can do to embrace an “unspeakable joy” this week?

:: Where are you positioned to bring the joy of Jesus into a difficult or joyless situation this Christmas season? Who can help hold you accountable to do that?

“Joy means the perfect fulfillment of that for which I was created and regenerated, not the successful doing of a thing.”
- Oswald Chambers

