

CONVERSATION GUIDE



THE PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS WEEK THREE



SCRIPTURE ZEPHANIAH 3:14-18A

Shout for joy, daughter Zion! sing joyfully, Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵ The LORD has removed the judgment against you, he has turned away your enemies; The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear. ¹⁶ On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, Zion, do not be discouraged ¹⁷ The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior, Who will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, Who will sing joyfully because of you, ¹⁸ as on festival days. I will remove disaster from among you, so that no one may recount your disgrace.

The promise of Christmas is that we will know joy. We will know joy because the Lord is present and in our midst, who is a mighty savior. In this message we will at the joy available to us when we recognize God's presence. We can sing for joy at God our strength. We may look at how singing is vital for experiencing the joy of the Lord.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you define joy? What is the difference between joy and happiness?
2. What is your reaction to hearing that joy is a choice?
3. Singing and joy go together. Do you have a playlist of worship songs? Are there any songs speaking to your heart right now?
4. Read aloud Zephaniah 3:16-18a. What do these verses tell us about joy?
5. Three steps were suggested for entering into joy: Sing, slow down, and share. Which of these are you most likely to do and why?

Deeper Dive

Read aloud Zephaniah 3:14-18a. Then reread aloud a second time. Share the words or phrases that resonate with you and speak to your heart.

What is the joy you have received from a relationship with Christ? How would you share that testimony with others?

From today's message, is there a...

- Scripture to ponder?
- Prayer to pray?
- Action to take?
- Conversation to start?
- Mindset to change?

love God love others make disciples

Church of the Nativity
20 E. Ridgley Road
Timonium, MD 21093