

## The New Joy

Scripture: Luke 15: 3-10  
Date: December 13, 2020

### **JUNK**

#### *TEACHING*

Culture – especially at Christmas – is more consumed with the madness of consumerism than the message of Christianity. However, we grow frustrated that our efforts of giving often filled with broken, missing pieces.

The value of Christ diminishes within us and the value of joy within us as well. We see our selves as worth less and lost in the midst of the dark and gloomy world in which we live.

#### *REFLECTIONS*

Where in this world do you feel less important or valuable?

Where in your world do you feel lost in your purpose, passion or power?

### **JESUS**

#### *TEACHING*

Advent reminds us of the joy of new life – the birth of a baby. In Jesus we see the birth of new life for us and that gives us a joy. A joy that comes from God Himself. The joy of Jesus is found in His journey to the cross, is offered to us and is sealed within us.

### **ADVENT JOY**

#### *TEACHING*

The joy from Jesus to us is revealed to us by the searching of God for the lost. Not a search because God doesn't know where we are – but because we don't know He's looking for us. Yet God's 'search' is passionate and powerful. When we recognize God's search for us there is a celebration of joy.

But that celebration isn't meant just for the moment – it's meant to be a part of the fabric in which we live – and how we live. A joy that transcends happiness or gratitude but it part of our DNA as God's children – even in the midst of a daily grind of creation.

#### *REFLECTIONS*

Where in your life do you long for God's joy to triumph over life's circumstances?

Where in your world can you share the joy of God this Christmas season?