

SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:10-11

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

Psalm 95

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.

3 For the Lord is the great God,
the great King above all gods.

4 In his hand are the depths of the earth,
and the mountain peaks belong to him.

5 The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.

6 Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

7 for he is our God
and we are the people of his pasture,

the flock under his care.

Today, if only you would hear his voice,
8 “Do not harden your hearts as you did at
Meribah,

as you did that day at Massah in the
wilderness,

9 where your ancestors tested me;

they tried me, though they had seen what
I did.

10 For forty years I was angry with that
generation;

I said, “They are a people whose hearts go
astray,

and they have not known my ways.’

11 So I declared on oath in my anger,

“They shall never enter my rest.”

Please take a moment together as a group to read these two Scripture passages.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Talk about of a time you saw joy in someone's life. How did you recognize it in them?
- If we are honest, we all sometimes look for happiness under the tree on Christmas. What sets apart true joy from happiness? How do you distinguish between the two?
- How are you living in joy?
- The first several verses of Psalm 95 talk about the power, majesty and presence of God. How does this lead us to worship?
- As you read Psalm 95, where does the tone change? What changed with the people?
- When you become present to the voice of the Father, what changes in your heart?
- What can we learn from this?
- What does it mean to you to know, live and celebrate the way of Jesus?