

**Anticipating Advent  
Anticipating JOY**  
Sermon Notes for Dec. 13, 2020

The C\_\_\_\_\_ of JOY

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**Anticipating Advent  
Discussion/Study Guide for Anticipating JOY**

We hope this guide will help you go deeper into God’s Word and spur you on in obedience to what God is teaching us today. Please feel free to use all or part of it for your group discussion or personal study.

- How would you finish the following sentence? During the season of advent, the word JOY makes me think of...
- What’s the difference between joy and happiness?
- Do you think it is possible to have joy and sorrow at the same time? What do you think Paul means when he describes himself as “sorrowful yet always rejoicing” (2 Cor. 6:10)?
- Read Luke 1:24-55. What external circumstances do you think Elizabeth and Mary might have experienced that could have caused them not to experience joy?
- In what ways do you see joy expressed in verses 39-55?
- How does Elizabeth respond to Mary’s greeting when she enters her house?
- Read Luke 1:15. How does this verse describe the baby in Elizabeth’s womb? According to Luke 1:41 and 1:44, what is the evidence that Luke 1:15 is true?
- What is Elizabeth’s description of Mary and the baby in her womb in verses 42-45? How is this evidence that she was filled with the Holy Spirit?
- According to this passage what are the different names and titles given to the baby in Mary’s womb?
- How do these names and titles make you feel about God?
- What are the reasons Mary gives for expressing her joy in God?
- According to Mary, in what ways has God shown His might?
- According to Mary, in what ways has God show His mercy in?

Take some time and create your own song of praise. How would you finish the same sentence that Mary started? My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has ...