

Rediscover Christmas: Good News in Troubling Times
Finding Joy in Our Discouragements
Luke 1:39-45

Songwriters get their inspiration from their context, their life experiences, and their main concerns. They often sing about that which is most important to them. It makes sense that our faith is a singing faith, that we would sing about the God of the universe and His love for us. That is why we worship the way we worship. God has gifted us with song because he wired us to be connected to Him that way. When we lift our voices in song, we join with the angels in heaven who were created for that very purpose.

1. Christ allows us to enjoy our joy.
2. Christ allows us to strengthen our joy.
3. Christ allows us to choose our joy.

The incarnation of Christ (God taking on human form) allows us to rediscover Christmas each and every year. We have the chance to embrace joy no matter our circumstances. Every day of Advent reminds us of the joy of salvation, but we must seek our happiness, not in the seasonal trappings and traditions around us, but in returning constantly to Christ, our source of joy. Let's choose to continue the process of rejoicing, despite the pain and challenges we are facing. In the midst of our discouragement, let's remember the good news of great joy: A Savior has been born, Christ our Lord, and He will carry us through and complete His work in us no matter what.