

# MESSAGE NOTES

## JOY IN THE MIDST

Dec 12/13, 2020

### LUKE 2:8-20 (ESV)

*And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. <sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" <sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*

### PHILIPPIANS 1:21-26 (ESV)

*For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup> I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <sup>24</sup> But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. <sup>25</sup> Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup> so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.*

### PHILIPPIANS 2:5-7 (ESV)

*Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.*

- Grace transforms Residents of Earth into Citizens of Heaven -

### PHILIPPIANS 2:12-18 (ESV)

*Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. <sup>14</sup> Do all things without grumbling or disputing, <sup>15</sup> that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup> holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. <sup>17</sup> Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. <sup>18</sup> Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.*

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13 (ESV)

## **EVERY BELIEVER CAN HAVE JOY IN THE MIDST OF THIS GENERATION BY WORKING IN TWO WAYS:**

PHILIPPIANS 2:14-16 (ESV)

### **#1 WAY: CHILD**

PHILIPPIANS 2:14 (ESV)

What am I complaining about?

PHILIPPIANS 2:15 (ESV)

What is influencing me?

a. A child **SHINES**

b. A child **CLINGS**

- A child of God shines brightly and clings tightly –

### **#2 WAY: MESSENGER**

PHILIPPIANS 2:13 (ESV)

a. A messenger **RECEIVES**

b. A messenger **DELIVERS**

c. A messenger **REJOICES**

PHILIPPIANS 2:17 (ESV)

#### **A messenger of God:**

- A. Receives the message from God
- B. Delivers the message to people
- C. Rejoices in the opportunity