

JOY

Finding a way to be happy even when things don't go your way

MEMORY VERSE

"Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!"

Philippians 4:4, NIV

WEEK

1

God Promises a Savior

Isaiah 9:6-7

BOTTOM LINE:

I can have joy because God keeps His promises.

WEEK

2

Zechariah and Elizabeth

Luke 1:5-25; 57-79

BOTTOM LINE:

I can have joy because anything is possible with God.

WEEK

3

Jesus is Born

Luke 2:1-7

BOTTOM LINE:

I can have joy because God sent His son.

WEEK

4

Shepherds and Angels

Luke 2:8-20

BOTTOM LINE:

I can have joy because God's story is for everyone.



MORNING TIME

Practice starting your day with joy this month by thinking of 31 reasons you can be happy. Have each person in the family brainstorm their own 31 reasons, write them out on separate, small scraps of paper, and put them in a container. Each morning, on your way out the door, have everyone grab a piece of joy from their container and carry it with them the whole day to remind them to be happy even when things don't go their way.



DRIVE TIME

Whether you're traveling over the holidays or just commuting, don't miss our special holiday podcast for families. Our audio drama will invite the entire family to imagine the Christmas story together. Find it on Studio252.tv or the Parent Cue app!



MEAL TIME

Ask a kid: What is number one on your Christmas wish list? If you don't receive that gift, how will you feel? How will you react?

Ask a parent: What was the worst or most awkward Christmas present you ever received? Did you find a way to be joyful anyway?



BED TIME

Read Luke 2:1-20 as a family. Discuss how the birth of Jesus would bring "great joy for all the people." How did Jesus' birth bring glory to God? Peace to those on earth? Pray together and ask God to remind you of the joy and peace the promise of Jesus brings to all of us, even when things aren't going our way.



PARENT TIME

Isn't it crazy that sometimes the season of peace and joy is the least peaceful and joyful for all the grown ups? This month, set the tone of joy in your home by playing joyful music, lighting mood-lifting candles, taking an extra minute to pray quietly, and take deep breaths throughout the day, or whatever helps you remember the joy of the season. Participating in this month's MorningTime with your kids is also a great way to model joy for your family. Take it a step further by discussing, as a family, how the pieces of joy from your container helped to change your attitude throughout the day. Because we all know, when the grown ups aren't happy, ain't nobody happy!