



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: Living With Great Joy

Speaker: Glenn Packiam - Lead Pastor of Rockharbor Church

Scriptures: Luke 2:9-12

9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Sermon Summary:

In a season filled with both celebration and struggle, where can we find joy that truly lasts? This Sunday, we'll continue our Advent series, Waiting for Jesus, with guest speaker Glenn Packiam. We will explore the angel's announcement of “good news of great joy” and see how Jesus, our saving King, invites us into a joy that changes our lives. You're invited to discover how to receive and sustain real joy in every season.

Sermon Questions:

1. How are you coping with this holiday season? Have you experienced it as joyful or has it been hard to get on board with a “the most wonderful time of the year?”
2. Read 1 Samuel 8:10-19. What did God tell the people would happen if they got their request to have a human king? Hint: look for repetition of the word take

How does this compare with the kind of king Jesus is?

The good news is Jesus. Jesus is the Saving King!

3. One way to live with and sustain joy in our lives is to pay attention to our attachments. Like on a roller coaster, we can become disoriented by the ups and downs of what we are attached to like our bank account, social status, employment, performance, relationship status, etc. What do you find yourself being attached to that cannot provide you with the ultimate security you need?

One of the tests of our attachments is our level of contentment. Is your joy extrinsic or intrinsic, meaning is it attached to the presence of God within you or what circumstances are happening around you?

4. Christianity doesn't say to eliminate your attachments, it says order them rightly. Pastor Glenn emphasized our need to return to God as our source and see the other provisions as resources. In what specific areas of your life do you most need to return to God as your source?
5. We live between 2 joys this Advent- between the remembered joy of Christ's coming and in the anticipated joy of Christ's coming again. Pray and ask God to help you experience the joy and anticipation of his coming this Advent beyond the current external circumstances of your life and our world.