

# DISCUSSION GUIDE



## **JOY TO THE WORLD – CHOOSE JOY – LUKE 2**

Christmas is all about JOY. When you start to look around, and listen to the music, and walk in stores around Christmastime, the word JOY is found everywhere. Why is JOY intrinsically tied to Christmas? Well, JOY is the major theme around Jesus. It's all over the Christmas story.

### **BELONG:**

Take a few minutes to hear about your group members' weeks.

1. Ask about highs and lows since you last met.
2. What time in your life would you say was the most joyful? Why?
3. What are some thoughts you have from the message?

### **BELIEVE:**

4. **Read Philippians 1:1-2**
5. Andy said, "you can't experience the benefits and completeness of joy apart from knowing Jesus." Have you seen that to be true in your life?
6. What is one thing you do currently to keep Jesus on your mind constantly?
7. What role does perspective play in regard to the way we choose joy?
8. **Read Philippians 1:12-21**
9. What was clearly the most important purpose Paul had in life? What does a person's purpose have to do with the joy he/she experiences in life?
10. What circumstance was Paul facing and how did they open new areas of ministry for him rather than confine him? What would your first reaction be if you were in a similar situation? Are you more prone to try to control the outcomes or to trust God in the midst of them?
11. "Panic is a barrier to joy." How do you see that relating to Paul's situation?

### **BECOME:**

12. Andy gave 3 points about choosing Joy:
  - Joy is something that God can restore.
  - Joy is produced by the Holy Spirit.
  - Joy is always there.
13. Which of the 3 would make the greatest difference in your life right now? Why do you think that is?

### **PRAY:**

Pray for the choosing of Joy for your group members this Christmas season.