



## Christmas Morning - 25<sup>th</sup> December 2021

In the boxes below, draw the pictures and connect with a line to the Bible verse about joy:

1.

"You will fill me with **JOY** in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures at your right hand."  
(Psalm 16:11)

2.

"Remain in my love... I have told you this so that my **JOY** may be in you and that your **JOY** may be complete. My command is this: love each other as I have loved you."  
(John 15:9, 11-12)

3.

"I bring you good news that will cause great **JOY** for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."  
(Luke 2:10-11)

4.

"I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your **JOY**."  
(John 16:22)

5.

"For the **JOY** that was set before him, he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the Father."  
(Hebrews 12:2)

## Reflections for the week ahead:



### Jesus:

- Read John 15:11. What joy did Jesus have that he said he would share with us? What is the key to receiving it?
- Read John 16:19-22. Why did Jesus say that after his resurrection, no one would take away his disciples' joy? Why does it seem like our joy is gone? Where is it really and how do we recover it?

### Simeon and Anna: Read Luke 2:22-38

- Why did Simeon seem content to die, now that he'd held Jesus in his arms (v.29)?
- How would Jesus turn the world's order of things upside down (v.34)?
- Simeon also told Mary that "A sword will pierce your own soul" (v.35). As well as experiencing new life in the Kingdom of God, what also are some of the costs of following Jesus (v.35)?
- Anna was a real worshipper of God (v.37). What could a life of worship to Jesus look like for us?
- Anna was looking forward to the "redemption of Jerusalem" (v.38). What redemption are we waiting for, and how do we live with an expectation of Jesus' return?

### **Praying with joy this week:**

We can sometimes order our prayers using the letters J-O-Y. Why not use this pattern below, for the coming week?

**J** - Jesus (put him first - John the Baptist in Jn 3:29)

**O** - Others (Christians around the world, those we know)

**Y** - Yourself (Build your relationship with Christ, that your joy in him would grow)