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## Merry Christmas

12-21-25

Luke 2:8-11

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Introduction: Over the course of the past few weeks, one of the most common phrases we've heard and spoken is "Merry Christmas".

1. For many, this is more of a wish than a reality.
  - Family Dysfunction
  - Financial Pressures
  - Loss
  - Disappointment
2. Despite that reality, it is possible to have not only a merry Christmas, but a merry life.
3. Embedded in the Christmas story is the key to that kind of life.

### I. The Christmas Story Identifies The Source Of Joy

#### A. A Definition

#### B. A Contrast

- Culture
- Christianity

### II. To Experience This Joy, I Must:

#### A. Agree

#### B. Accept

#### C. Rest

Conclusion: We all long for a merry Christmas, a merry life.

1. But life keeps presenting roadblocks.
2. That reality will not change and you cannot control them.
3. You can roll up your sleeves and face them on your own.
4. Why not turn to Jesus, the source of joy?
  - So, the joy of the Lord becomes your strength.  
Nehemiah 8:10 – "... for the joy of the Lord is your strength."