

**Series Overview** | We live in a world that is filled with hopelessness. A place where peace is often fleeting, war is common, and conflict is constantly lurking around the corner. We live in a world where joy is lost in the hustle and bustle of life. Our world is one where love can feel empty. This is the world in which God sent His Son Jesus to come and save us from sin—to give mankind hope, peace, joy, and love. *Gifts Of Christmas* will remind us that because of the greatest Gift of all, we can have life and know how to share His hope, peace, joy, and love with the world. Each of these four sessions of this series will represent one of the traditional advent themes found in the story of Christ’s birth, life, death, and resurrection.

**Large Group Teaching Summary** | After Jesus is born, Angels appear to a group of shepherds and tell them of the birth of Christ. After they find Jesus, the shepherds hurry about and tell the town about the Messiah who has come. Their joy could not be contained, for the Savior has come.

**Key Takeaway** | Our joy found in Christ cannot be contained but must be shared.

**Scripture Focus** | Luke 2:8-20, John 9:1-24

### ***Gifts of Christmas* | Session 3 Discussion Questions**

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You can use these discussion questions to facilitate small groups after your large group teaching or even create handouts for students to work through the message as you go. These questions are designed to foster conversations, help students think critically about the teaching, and wrestle with how these Biblical truths impact their complicated and ever-changing lives.

#### **Get Them Talking | An Optional Opening Question To Get Students Talking**

1. What gift have you given to someone that got the greatest reaction or brought the most noticeable joy?

#### **Discussion Questions**

1. Read Luke 2:8-20 and John 9:1-14. What do these Scriptures teach you about God? What Do they teach you about yourself?
2. What gives you the most joy in life? Like what makes you want to cheer at the top of your lungs and just beam with joy? What steals your joy as a human? What steals your joy as a Christian?
3. How can we put joy into our lives?
4. How can we focus on the joy of Gospel?
5. How can we deal with our thieves of joy?
6. What do you think about the blind man’s answer in John 9:25 when asked about being able to see and the one who healed him?
7. Think about your joy and enthusiasm when you first became a Christian, then answer the following:
  - a. How does worshipping God bring you joy?
  - b. How can we bring joy to others?
  - c. How can we bring up Jesus as our joy into conversations with friends?
8. Pray for your friends who don’t have the joy that comes with knowing Jesus. Ask the Lord to give you an opportunity to share Jesus with them and for the boldness to do it when the moment arises.