

JOY!

GETTY KIDS DEVOTIONAL

25-DAY ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

DAY 10 "JESUS, JOY OF THE HIGHEST HEAVEN" —The story behind the carol

*"May the God of hope fill you with all
joy and peace as you trust in him..."*

ROMANS 15:13

When I was pregnant with our first daughter Keith and I wrote this children's carol. We wrote it to try and describe the joy of Christmas to her. Her middle name is Joy. We wanted her to know that the greatest joy in life was also the one that could never be taken away—the joy of the Lord.

We were helped by Cecil Francis Alexander's carol "Once in Royal David's City". We love how she tried to show children that the Lord Jesus came as a little child like them to save them and bring them into God's family. Christmas is not to be far away from us. We are called right into the joy of the story, to know the Lord for ourselves.

What does joy mean? It is being glad deep inside when something is good and right and lovely. Like playing with a good friend, or sharing a lovely meal with family, or singing your favorite song to the Lord, or when you make a right choice. I'm sure you can think of many more! All these gifts are from the Lord who shows us what is good and right and lovely. They bring us to Him with thankfulness.

Of course, there are many things that don't bring joy. There are also things we love that come to an end. Jesus is our greatest joy like He is for all of heaven. He came to share our sadness so that we may share in His joy. One day He will make everything right and our joy will be perfect and never ending.

→ What are some of the ways Jesus brings you joy?

→ *Father in heaven,
Thank you that you are our forever joy! When we feel
sad or disappointed or happy and pleased help us to
remember You and all Your promises,*

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

