

# JOY!

## GETTY KIDS DEVOTIONAL

25-DAY ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

### DAY 1 "JOY HAS DAWNED"

—The story behind the carol

*"I will sing to the Lord all my life;  
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live."*

PSALM 104:33

Keith and our friend Stuart Townend wrote this carol while Keith and I were living in Switzerland. From where we lived you can often see snow on the top of Mont Blanc, the tallest mountain of the Alps, all year round! They wanted to write a Christmas Carol that told the story of Jesus' birth and what it means for us. Stuart has three children and we have four. They both love to tell stories to their kids especially ones about the Lord. One of the ways they do that is to put the stories into songs. They spent a long time going over every word and note, trying to make them clear and beautiful. We have sung it every Christmas since they finished it!

Singing is a great way to remember something. We often travel as a family on the road when we are performing concerts. Sometimes that means doing home school on the tour bus or backstage at a concert hall. One October our daughter Charlotte was writing the date out on a white board. Before she started to write it, she suddenly sang a little song that spelled out the word "October". She had learned the song at school and it helped her remember the letters in the right order!

How kind of the Lord to make us in such a way that when we sing something, we can remember it better. How wonderful when those songs are about Him!

➔ Can you think of a song about the Lord you know really well? Name one thing it teaches you about Him?

➔ *Father in heaven,  
Thank you for the gifts of music and poetry and singing.  
Please help us know you better as we learn these carols together,  
In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

