

WEEKEND RECAP DISCUSSION GUIDE



SERIES & TITLE

CHRISTMAS AT THE MOVIES - ELF



BIG IDEA

No matter how difficult life is, joy is always a choice away.



ICE BREAKER

What's one Christmas tradition that brings you joy? Share with the group.



MAIN POINTS

- Joy isn't dependent on life being perfect. We can have joy even when life is difficult.
- Genuine joy comes from knowing what's true and real. Discerning truth from lies leads to joy.
- Joy is a gift from God that comes from the Holy Spirit. We can't manufacture it on our own.



DISCUSS

1. When has something not gone according to plan over Christmas, yet you still found joy? What helped you maintain perspective?
2. Do you find it difficult to separate truth from deception today? How can we get better at discerning what's real?
3. Why do you think joy is listed as a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)? How can we allow the Spirit to produce more joy in our lives?
4. The sermon said "You can't just make yourself joyful." Do you agree? What's the difference between self-generated happiness and true, lasting joy?
5. How can remembering the true meaning of Christmas - that God sent Jesus to bring us into His family - bring us joy, even amidst life's difficulties?



CHALLENGE

Choose joy this Christmas season!



SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:9-11 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.



**NEXT WEEK
SNEAK PEAK**

KEVIN! Join us next week as we continue CHRISTMAS AT THE MOVIES looking at Home Alone!

Questions or Feedback? Email Groups@CentralAZ.com