



***Nurturing Faith...***  
*Every Day in Every Way*

December 15, 2019 *Eternal Life*

Isaiah 35:1-10  
 Psalm 146:5-10  
 James 5:7-10  
 Matthew 11:2-11



***Third Sunday in Advent***

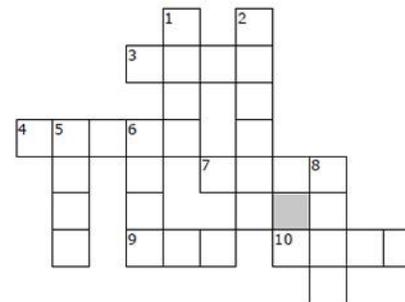
Good morning friends! Is it Christmas yet? NO! We are still waiting. Today, is our third Sunday in Advent and we light our pink candle which represents joy. What are some things that bring you joy? (allow for answers)

Joy is found deep within our heart when we remember that Jesus lives there, love lives there, and God is always with us. In our gospel this morning from Matthew, the disciples of John the Baptist weren't very joyful because they were full of doubt. They asked Jesus "Are you really the Messiah, the one we've been waiting for, or should we keep looking?" Jesus told them to go and tell John all that they had seen and heard. Good news is preached, the blind have sight, the deaf now hear. See, they had been waiting SOOOO long for God's promised One, the Messiah that they needed to make sure that Jesus was the real deal...so Jesus reminded them of all the miracles they had witnessed since he began preaching.

Jesus is the real deal! Jesus is the one that brings us joy. Do we need to keep looking like John's disciples? No! Jesus is here, Emmanuel, God with us is present. We have found God's son and that is why we celebrate!

Loving God, you have sent to us your Son, Jesus. Thank you for sending us the Messiah who lives in our hearts and brings such great joy. Amen.

***Crossword Puzzle***



**ACROSS**

- 3. To receive sound using your ears
- 4. Unable to see
- 7. Something that is pleasant or enjoyable
- 9. To be aware of what is around you by using your eyes
- 10. To move along by putting one foot in front of the other

**DOWN**

- 1. Not living
- 2. A place where criminals are forced to live as a punishment
- 5. Unable to walk correctly because of injury to or weakness in the legs or feet
- 6. Information or reports about recent events
- 8. Unable to hear

DEAF	SEE	NEWS	GOOD	WALK
HEAR	DEAD	BLIND	PRISON	LAME

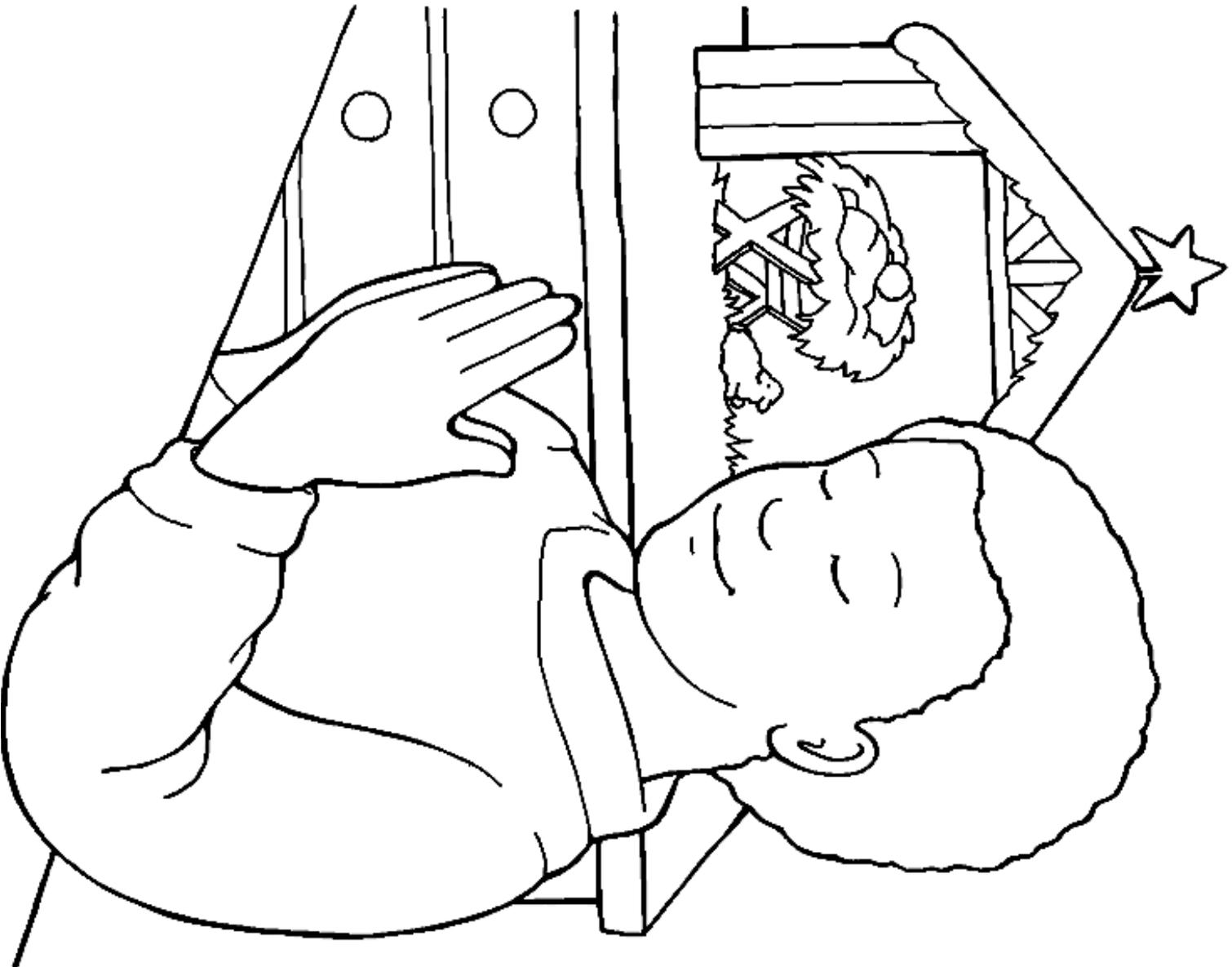
**Activity:** On construction paper, using colorful markers, write vertically the letters J, O, Y. J= Jesus, O= Only, Y= You. Jesus, Only You. Decorate with glitter, stickers, etc...Hang this on your refrigerator as a reminder that only Jesus can bring us true joy.

**Discussion Question:** What are some ways that you can bring joy to others during this time of Advent? How can we remind others that joy doesn't come from presents but true joy comes from knowing that Christ is our Savior?

**Family Table Prayer for December:**

God of love, joy, and light  
 we thank you for your son.  
 For Mary, and her baby boy,  
 Our savior, and all that he has done. Amen.

**December Memory Verse:** Luke 2:14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!"



**Thank you, God, for Jesus**

From Thru-the-Bible Coloring Pages for Ages 4-8. © 1986, 1988  
Standard Publishing.  
Used by permission. Reproducible Coloring Books may be purchased