

Advent 2014
Joy Is Always In Season
Philippians 2:1-4

*"Everyone loves himself most but wants others
to love him more than they love themselves."*

Allan Bloom - The Closing of the American Mind
or

*Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another
as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests,
but also for the interests of others.*

Philippians 2:3-4

I. Foundation for Joy (1)

II. Joy Defined (2)

III. Joy in Practice (3-4)

Go Forward

Know: Take some time to identify how joy is defined. How does popular culture define it? How does the Bible define it? What does popular culture tell you to do to obtain joy? What does the Bible tell you to do to obtain joy?

Grow: After you've got your two sets of answers in response to the *Know* questions, critically evaluate what your life looks like. Consider how you spend time and money. Consider what you think about and why. Is your life more like the popular culture version or the Biblical version? Pray about what you see, asking God to change your life to make it more like the Biblical version.

Show: What one thing could you do this coming week to regard someone as more important than yourself? To look out for their interest as much as your own? Commit to a time/place to carry out this action step...and then do it! Share about how it went with someone you trust.