

# STUMIN

## FAMILY DAILY DEVOTIONAL



**SHAKE IT UP | DECEMBER 7-13, 2022**  
**SHAKE IT UP BY CHOOSING JOY.**

*Glory to God in the  
highest  
heaven, and on earth  
peace to  
those on whom his  
favor rests.*

*Luke 2:14 NIV*

### >> DECEMBER 7

One of the best things about the Christmas season is that it gives us the chance to stop and reflect on the joy of Jesus coming to Earth. When we read about that first Christmas in Scripture, we remember what the gift of Jesus really means to us. So this week, work to memorize Scripture from that story!

Turn on your favorite Christmas song and let it play. As the song goes on, try to write this verse as many times as you can before the music ends. Try to write it more and more by memory each time you start!

*Yes, the Lord has  
done amazing  
things for us!  
What joy!*

*Psalms 126:3 NLT*

### >> DECEMBER 8

How many things would you say are amazing? Is it amazing to have fun with friends? To enjoy your favorite meal? To get Christmas presents and have winter break? Whatever it is, we usually consider things to be amazing because they bring us joy.

Well, throughout history, people have recorded in the Bible time and time again that we can be filled with joy because of the amazing things that God has done for us. There is no greater joy than that!

What amazing things has God done in your life? Take a moment to write a few down and consider how they've brought joy to your life. Then, thank God for bringing you joy through the amazing things happening in your life.

*For the Lord your God  
is living among you.  
He is a mighty savior.  
He will take delight  
in you with gladness.  
With his love, he will  
calm all your fears.  
He will rejoice over  
you with joyful songs.*

*Zephaniah 3:17 NLT*

### >> DECEMBER 9

We hear the word "joy" a lot during the holiday season. The presents, the music, the time off school, the decorations, the celebration of the gift of Jesus to the world—it's all the stuff that makes Christmas full of joy. But while that's the stuff that brings us joy, have you ever thought about what brings God joy? God gets the greatest joy out of each one of us! God delights in us. In other words, to God, we're the thing that makes the Christmas season, and every season, full of joy.

Think about all the things that you think God might find delightful about you. Then, make it a point to celebrate the things about you that give God great joy.

*The Word became  
flesh and made his  
dwelling among us.  
We have seen his  
glory, the glory of the  
one and only Son,  
who came from the  
Father, full of grace  
and truth.  
John 1:14 NIV*

## >> DECEMBER 10

The best kind of friend shows up when we need them most. When you break up with a significant other, when you're stressed about a big test, when you don't make the team—that's when friends show up to help us get through it. Christmas is a reminder that, in the same way our friends show up for us, Jesus showed up for us thousands of years ago. Jesus was God's way of showing up right when we needed God the most. Jesus came to be the friend that loves us no matter what. And who doesn't need a friend like that?

Today, say a prayer, talking to God just as you would to a friend. Thank God for sending Jesus to live among us and be the friend we need.

*They were terrified,  
but the angel  
reassured them.  
"Don't be afraid!"  
he said. "I bring you  
good news that will  
bring great joy to all  
people."*

*Luke 2:9b-10 NLT*

## >> DECEMBER 11

There's usually a limit to the way good news works. Think about it! A cupcake brings joy to the person eating it. A surprise vacation brings joy to the family traveling. A snow day brings joy to an entire school district. During the first Christmas, an angel brought good news that was different. It was good news that had the potential to bring great joy to all people. It was the good news of Jesus. That means your family, friends, and even strangers you see on the street can all be impacted by the good news of Jesus.

Who is one person you know that could use some joy in their life this week? Find a way to share the good news of Christmas with that person.

*Jesus spoke to the  
people once more  
and said, "I am the  
light of the world.  
If you follow me,  
you won't have to  
walk in darkness,  
because you will have  
the light that leads  
to life."  
John 8:12 NLT*

## >> DECEMBER 12

Have you ever tried to find your way around a dark room? It's really hard to do, right? Well, life can sometimes feel a lot like that! Remember this truth when life feels uncertain: Jesus is the light of the world. That light is what we celebrate every year at Christmas! And when we choose to follow Jesus, He lights our way so we don't have to stumble around in the darkness.

Today, make a point to notice the various lights in your life—the sun, a flashlight, the lights in your home. When you see them or use them, thank God for providing you with the ultimate light of Jesus to help you through life.

*Every good and perfect  
gift is from above.*

*James 1:17a NIV*

## >> DECEMBER 13

Sometimes the holidays cause stress and tension. Whether it's from shopping, playing board games with your family, or traveling—it can feel overwhelming. A guy named James (who was actually the brother of Jesus!) encourages us to be thankful for the "good gifts" in our lives. The problem is, this can be hard—especially this time of year. But what if you were surrounded by more good gifts than you ever realized?

Take time to think about the good in your life right now. How do those things impact your life? (If it's hard to think of something, don't give up!) Write down a few of the things that came to mind, and then thank God for those things.