

## Sermon Discussion Guide:

# A Son Who is Worthy

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Scripture: **Luke 2:1-21**

Series: **Advent**

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### OVERVIEW

Caesar Augustus (aka Octavian) reigned from 27 BC – 14 AD. He ushered in an era of relative peace known as the Pax Romana. However, he is a shadow, and the peace he brought was fleeting and futile. Juxtaposed with Plato's allegory of the cave, the real world was outside of the cave, just as real peace was outside of the Pax Romana. The truth is, the only basis for real peace is the good news of the gospel of Christ. This is because **Jesus came to give us joy and peace.**

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### CORROBORATING TEXTS

Romans 5:1; Romans 8:1; Romans 12:18; Philippians 4:6-7

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Our current culture pushes back on God's law and God's Word. Even unbelieving friends and family members don't view Scripture as true and authoritative. What challenges do you face when discussing biblical principles and biblical doctrines with unbelievers?
2. How do you demonstrate real joy in your life? Do you sometimes confuse joy with happiness? Why are they not the same thing? Would the people closest to you characterize you as living with real joy?
3. How do you demonstrate real peace in your life? Do you often succumb to anxiety and worry—robbing you of real peace? If so, why do you think that is? How can you experience more peace? Would the people closest to you characterize you as living with real peace?
4. The absence of conflict does not bring peace. Moreover, conflict must be dealt with and not swept under a rug, albeit appropriately. What are four ways that Jimmy gave us to handle conflict? [1) Deal with conflict directly to the person (Matt. 18:15); 2) Deal with it honestly; 3) Come humbly; 4) Come hopeful (with a goal toward reconciliation).]
5. Do you sometimes lose sight of the good news of the gospel? Does it become routine in your heart? Why is this? What can you do to cultivate a renewed joy and zeal for the gospel in your heart? What are some idols that might be vying for priority in your heart?
6. When we hold onto ungodly guilt (especially for past sins), it demonstrates a disbelief in the gospel and a disbelief in Christ's forgiveness for sins. Are you holding onto ungodly guilt? If so, why is your trust in Christ's forgiveness lacking? Are you trusting in God's promises in His Word, or are you trusting in your own feelings? What is keeping you from trusting in God's promises?