

Message: ***"Finding Joy in Life"***

Scripture: Luke 1:46-55
(12-14-25 Pastor Tony Hao)

What's that one thing that can really make you happy? For some, it's that latest gadget, or a fancy car. Someone once said, "Money will buy a bed, but not sleep; it will buy you books, but not brains; food, but not appetite; a house, but not a home; medicine, but not health; amusement, but not happiness. Money can even buy you a crucifix, but not a Savior." Today, I want us to learn from someone who found joy in the right place.

Luke 1:46-55 is commonly referred to as the *Magnificat* or Mary's song that glorifies God. It comes after the angel Gabriel announced Mary would give birth to the Savior. In her song, Mary shows us where we can find true joy. It comes from a life that is filled with the Word of God, a heart that is overwhelmed with the Son of God, and a soul that is deeply grateful of the Grace of God. Do you have that joy in God today?

GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)

1. For what does Mary praise God in this song? What contrasts does she make in vv. 51-53? How do these reflect her feelings about God? About herself?
2. Who are the 'proud,' the 'rulers,' and the 'rich,' whose overthrow she celebrates? How will Jesus fulfill the themes of this song?
3. Of the attributes of God celebrated in Mary's song, which do you appreciate the most? What challenges you the most? Why?
4. How does your life reflect God's concern for justice, mercy, and deliverance?