

Festive

Part Two - Fundamentally Festive

Luke 2:10 (GWT)

The angel said to (the Shepherds), “Don't be afraid! I have good news for you, a message that will fill everyone with joy.”

The Christian faith is fundamentally festive.

Romans 15:13 (GWT)

May God, the source of hope, fill you with joy and peace through your faith in him. Then you will overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The gospel will either make you festive or festered.

Matthew 2:1-3 (NLT)

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, 2 “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.” 3 King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem.

Matthew 11:16-19

“To what should I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces who call out to one another, 17 ‘We played the flute for you, yet you did not dance; we wailed in mourning, yet you did not weep.’ 18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon!’ 19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him, a glutton and a drunk, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ But wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

A fundamentally festive faith always seeks and celebrates.

Matthew 2:10-11 (NLT)

When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! 11 They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.

Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV)

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)

Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

Matthew 7:8 (NET)

For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

James 1:2

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.

A fundamentally festive faith is a giving faith.

Matthew 2:11 (NLT)

Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (CEV)

Each of you must make up your own mind about how much to give. But don't feel sorry that you must give and don't feel you are forced to give. God loves people who love to give.

A fundamentally festive faith gives us a new path to follow.

Matthew 2:12 (NLT)

When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

Matthew 7:13 (NIV)

“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”