

JOY

[READ]

Our third candle reminds us of the joy that comes from knowing and serving Jesus. No matter what advertisers try and tell us this time of year, it's Jesus, not things, that bring us joy. Things can bring happiness, but happiness is an emotion and subject to come and go with our circumstances. Joy, however, is a state of being and is not subject to our circumstances because it comes from Jesus, who is steady and unchanging. His joy enables us to live lives of joy, prayer, and thanksgiving, no matter what our circumstances may be.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

[LIGHT CANDLE]

[PRAY]

Father God, we thank you for the joy that comes from knowing and serving Your Son, Jesus. Help us to rely on Him for joy and not on things for happiness. We thank You for Your steady and unchanging nature. In Jesus' name, Amen.