

*There Is No Better Announcement For Sinners
In Need Of Saving Than "A Savior Is Born"*

GOOD NEWS *of* GREAT JOY



25 ONE-MINUTE MEDITATIONS ABOUT THE BIRTH OF JESUS
AND THE JOY HE BRINGS TO ALL PEOPLE WHO RECEIVE HIM

Jimmy D. Brown

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Introduction: Regaining Our Awe

Despite having always heard Niagara Falls was a beautiful sight, I kept thinking, “*It’s a waterfall - what’s the big deal?*” I’d been to many waterfalls over my lifetime, so I wasn’t expecting anything overly remarkable.

But...

When we visited the falls, I was in awe.

It was breathtaking. It was stunning. It was one of those true “*you had to be there*” experiences that was indescribable if you weren’t. The views from both the United States and Canada were spectacular.

And...

It was especially awe-inspiring during the tour boat ride that took us so near the bottom of the falls we had to wear raincoats due to the spray of water that hit us.

And...

It was even more awesome (didn’t think that was possible!) when we walked up onto Hurricane Deck at the *Cave Of The Winds* attraction and actually entered the outer flow of the falls.

It came rushing over the top of us with such force that we could only stand a short moment of it. What an amazing experience!

But...

Despite the jaw-dropping beauty of this place, I noticed the locals seemed unimpressed. The workers at the visitor center, restaurant, and other buildings didn’t seem enthralled by their surroundings.

They didn’t stop to gasp in delight. They didn’t slow down to marvel. They didn’t even seem to notice the falls were there at all.

It was as if they had become so familiar with the falls that this magnificent spot no longer captivated their attention. They seemed to no longer view it with any sense of wonder and awe like those of us who were gazing upon it for the first time.

They just went about the busyness of their everyday activities.

You and I were created to live in awe of Jesus. We were made to wonder as we gaze at Him and worship as we bow before Him. His glory is breathtaking. His grace is stunning. His goodness is jaw-dropping.

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY

May He never become so familiar to us that He fails to inspire awe in us!

In the midst of the busyness of everyday activities that compete for our attention...

Let us slow down to marvel.

Let us stop to gasp in delight.

Let us bow to worship.

Christmas is a particularly busy season for many of us with so many festivities, traditions, parties, movies and other trappings that sometimes we really do lose focus on the *"reason for the season."*

If we're not careful, we can make it all about the sights and sounds and smells and gifts and goodies of Christmas and not about the Christ of Christmas.

So, let's slow down and take in this glorious announcement afresh and anew...

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. – Luke 2:11 (ESV)

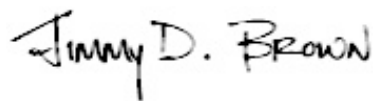
My prayer is that the twenty-five short daily readings in this book which lead up to Christmas Day will rekindle a *"great joy"* in us over the *"good news"* of Jesus.

They are purposefully short so we don't have yet another thing to add to the busyness, and purposefully centered on various aspects of the person and work of Jesus so we can regain our awe over Him.

The events surrounding the birth of Jesus tell a familiar story, but I hope it hits us with such beautiful and glorious force this year that we can barely stand it. Like we're hearing it for the very first time.

This Christmas season, may God draw us so deep into the story and so near to the Savior that we feel the spray of living water upon our faces.

All For Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jimmy D. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Continue reading on December 26th for a special reminder.

DECEMBER 1ST

When We Could Not Get To Him

Good News...

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

- Matthew 1:22-23 (ESV)

Our sin prevents nearness to God because it separates us from Him with no possible way from our side to get to Him. Christmas reminds us Jesus came to live, die and rise so you and I can draw near to God. All who trust in Jesus for forgiveness and freedom from sin are no longer distant from real peace, real hope, real joy, real comfort, real security, real wisdom, and real love because we are no longer distant from God where these things are found. Our Immanuel made a way for us to get forgiven, get real life, get to heaven and get to God. Rejoice today over this truth: When we could not get to Him, Jesus came to us.

...Of Great Joy

In what way does today's reading encourage, inspire or gladden your heart?

DECEMBER 2ND

Jesus Is The Reason For The Season

Good News...

Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!

– 2 Corinthians 9:15 (ESV)

The sights, sounds and smells of Christmastime should cause us to pause and celebrate Christ. As we see the glow of lights, let our own hearts be merry and bright because the Light of the world has come. As we hear holiday music, let us smile because Jesus has put a new song in our hearts. As we walk past the Salvation Army worker, let us remember Jesus came to work for our salvation. It's all there: the CHORUS of praise, the WRAPPING of swaddling clothes, the TREE made into a cross, the GIFT of eternal life. May every fleck of tinsel, note of a carol and morsel of a cookie remind us: Jesus is the reason for the season.

...Of Great Joy

What did you read today that lifts your spirits?

DECEMBER 3RD

A Time Of Hopeful Waiting

Good News...

And coming up at that very hour she (Anna) began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

– Luke 2:38 (ESV)

Advent is a time of hopeful waiting. The question is: what are we waiting for? Life will frequently leave us disappointed and dissatisfied if we are waiting for the right time when the right things have come and made us feel the right way. So... We wait. And we wait. And we wait our lives away. We will never find lasting satisfaction in the people, pleasures and possessions of earth. We weren't meant to. As we wait for the second coming of Jesus, let us look to Him to be for us and give to us what this world never can: the gift of real contentedness. It's not about what we have in our lives; it's about Who we have in our hearts.

...Of Great Joy

What from today's reading most cheers you up?

DECEMBER 4TH

A Savior Has Arrived To Rescue Us

Good News...

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

– Luke 2:10-11 (ESV)

The bad news that is plastered all over social media and news media stories will leave us disturbed and discouraged if we don't remind ourselves of the good news of the Greatest Story Ever Told. Every day we must remember Who Jesus is to us and what He does for us. The more we trust in the angel's message that a Savior and Lord has arrived to rescue us from bad and rule over us for good, the more we will experience real joy in our hearts. Today, don't fill your mind with the garbage of this world, but rather fix your mind on the glorious good news of Jesus. This leads to great rejoicing for all people who believe.

...Of Great Joy

How did today's reading brighten your day?

DECEMBER 5TH

The Gift That Keeps On Giving

Good News...

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

– John 3:16 (ESV)

When was the last time you thought about eternity and what it would be like to perish forever? When was the last time you rejoiced that you have a completely different eternity awaiting because God gave His Son? When was the last time you considered the implications of receiving this gift? Everything bad is turned around and traded in for good when we trust in Jesus! In Jesus we are given a countless list of blessings with each entry having sub-lists of countless more benefits that we enjoy now in part and will enjoy fully throughout eternity. Rejoice today in God's Son. He's the Christmas Gift that keeps on giving.

...Of Great Joy

Why should today's reading cause you to rejoice?

DECEMBER 6TH

It Was Started In Bethlehem

Good News...

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

– 2 Corinthians 8:9 (ESV)

Jesus willingly exchanged all the wealth of His deity for the poverty of His humanity when He came to dwell on earth. Why? For. Our. Sake. We couldn't live up to God's standards, so Jesus lived perfectly for us. We couldn't break free from sin, so He set us free. We couldn't atone for our transgressions, so He died in our place. We couldn't defeat death, so He conquered the grave so we too will rise. We couldn't earn an eternal retirement, so He paid for our inheritance. We have become rich through the finished work of Jesus. And long before it was finished at Calvary, it was started in Bethlehem. For our sake.

...Of Great Joy

What did you read today that gave you a renewed sense of happiness in Jesus?

DECEMBER 7TH

So We Can Have Everlasting Life

Good News...

*We know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ ...
if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.*

– Galatians 2:16a, 21b (ESV)

The birth of Jesus was the earthly beginning of our acquittal. Not guilty. But it happened. Not guilty. But You saw it. Not guilty. But I did it. Not guilty. But I owe for it. Not guilty. When we repent and believe the gospel, God applies the perfect life of Jesus and the atoning death of Jesus to our record and justifies us. It's just as if we never sinned and just as if we always obeyed. We who really are guilty of sin are set free. Free from shame. Free from judgement. Free from punishment. Instead, we get every blessing found in knowing God. Rejoice today, for Jesus has the final word for those who are trusting in Him: Not guilty.

...Of Great Joy

How is today's reading a cause for celebration?

DECEMBER 8TH

A Sure And Steadfast Hope

Good News...

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

– Romans 15:13 (ESV)

If there was no Christmas, there would be no hope for us. At His first coming, Jesus took our place so we can be with Him for eternity. At His second coming, Jesus will take us to a place where we can be with Him for eternity. Right now, it is easy to lose hope when we lose a loved one, lose a job, lose control, lose our health or lose our way, but a joy-filled, peace-filled hope is ours if we believe. We are promised Jesus will be with us in time of need, give to us all that we need, and one day put an end to our needs. Until then, we wait. But, because of Christmas, we wait in an abounding hope that the best is yet to come.

...Of Great Joy

What did you read today that leads you to rejoice?

DECEMBER 9TH

It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year

Good News...

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

– Matthew 2:1-2 (ESV)

This time of year is not about me. And it's not about you. Yet, it's easy to make it about us, isn't it? We can get caught up in what we enjoy about, what we receive because of, and what we get to do during Christmastime and spend very little time getting caught up with Christ. It's the most wonderful time of the year not because of the festive music, favorite movies, familiar decorations or family traditions that can rightly be a part of our holiday experience; it's a time of celebration and jubilation and exaltation of Jesus. This year, may everything that is wonderful about Christmas make us full of wonder about Christ.

...Of Great Joy

What in today's reading makes you feel encouraged in your spirit?

DECEMBER 10TH

His Everlasting Light Shines

Good News...

Your sun shall no more go down, nor your moon withdraw itself; for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended.

– Isaiah 60:20 (ESV)

Christmas is a broken string of lights for many of us. It's there, but it doesn't seem to do what it's supposed to do. It's bleak, not bright. It's melancholy, not merry. This time of year is disappointing and depressing for a lot of people for a lot of reasons. We're a broken people in a broken world where there is much that is not as it ought to be. But there is hope for us, because Jesus came for the very reason so many struggle in this season ... to fix what has been fractured in us and our world. As we wait for this to happen, let us turn to Him in our present darkness and ask Him to shine His everlasting light in our hearts.

...Of Great Joy

What did you read today that makes you feel better than you did before?

DECEMBER 11TH

Receiving The Gift Of God's Son

Good News...

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

– John 1:12-13 (ESV)

What does it mean to receive a gift? It means the gift wasn't rejected, ignored or misused. Instead, it was worn, admired, eaten, enjoyed, watched, sprayed on, driven, listened to, put to work or played with as it was intended. An untouched gift is an unreceived gift. That's why some people become believers and some do not. They embrace the life offered in Jesus or they live as if He isn't even there. We know we have received the Christmas Gift of God's Son by how He changes our lives. As children of God, we trust, obey, love and enjoy Jesus, and are transformed, empowered and blessed by Jesus. Just as God intends.

...Of Great Joy

What did you read today that sparks gratitude and happiness for Jesus?

DECEMBER 12TH

Christmas Is For Stuck People

Good News...

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

– Galatians 2:20 (ESV)

Christmas is for stuck people. People stuck in the past with its haunting reminders of what they have done. People stuck in the present with an endless search for happiness in the wrong places. People stuck in fear of the future with its paralyzing grip that prevents them from doing meaningful things. But Jesus came to liberate stuck people like you and me. He was born to free us from the things that prevent us from experiencing all God has for us. When Jesus lovingly gave Himself for you and me, the old us died and the new us came to life so we can live free from the bondage of sin as we live by faith in Him.

...Of Great Joy

In what way does today's reading chase away unhappiness?

DECEMBER 13TH

He Is The Gift

Good News...

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

– Philippians 3:7,8 (ESV)

To receive the gift of God's Son is to also get countless blessings and benefits from being in a relationship with Him. But let's be clear about one thing: if you want what Jesus can do for your life but don't want Jesus in your life, you won't receive Him or His blessings. Listen... He's not just useful, He's beautiful. He's not just resourceful, He's delightful. He's not just helpful, He's wonderful. Don't you see? Jesus doesn't just give us gifts; He is the gift. Being together with Him is the most precious gift He gives to us. And the more time we spend in His presence, the more beautiful, delightful and wonderful He becomes to us.

...Of Great Joy

What message from today's reading makes you feel "merry and bright"?

DECEMBER 14TH

What Does Jesus Want For Christmas?

Good News...

And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

– Matthew 2:11 (ESV)

What does Jesus want for Christmas? It's not our begrudging submission, reluctant giving, half-hearted worship, indifferent service, or lukewarm affection. These may be costly gifts, but they do not shine, and they are not sweet-smelling to our King. What Jesus wants is for us to get the full and lasting joy which comes from hearts that worship Him. For us to fall down in reverence. For us to stand up in awe. For us to walk on in joy. Jesus doesn't just want our treasure; He wants to be our treasure. And when we see Him for Who He is, we will give to Him the honor He deserves and get from Him the happiness we desire.

...Of Great Joy

What from today's reading do you find most uplifting?

DECEMBER 15TH

When Jesus Took On Flesh

Good News...

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

– John 1:14 (ESV)

When Jesus took on flesh to dwell among us, He didn't insulate Himself from the ugliness, brokenness and sinfulness of this world. Life on earth for Jesus was filled with the same things we deal with: difficult people, difficult circumstances, difficult tasks and difficult experiences. He didn't avoid these things; He endured these things. What Jesus did was suffer for us, to secure deliverance for us, so we can see and savor His glory now and forever. His birth was hard. His life was hard. His death was hard. This Christmas may be hard, but it is not without hope. Jesus made it through and will ensure you make it through too.

...Of Great Joy

How did today's reading bring a smile to your face?

DECEMBER 16TH

Always Prepared To Give An Answer

Good News...

But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.

– 1 Peter 3:15 (ESV)

Every time we say, “Merry Christmas” it gives a reason for the hope we have. At least, it should. It should say we honor Christ in our hearts. It should say His birth has led to us being born again. It should say the end result is our eternal joy in Him. When we say it, people should see we mean it. Because we back up our words with our lives by shining His light into a dark and dreary world full of people in desperate need for an answer to their inescapable brokenness. This year, let’s do more than say the words, “Merry Christmas.” Let’s also do things for others in the name of Jesus to make their Christmas a merry one.

...Of Great Joy

Why should today’s reading give you a reason to rejoice?

DECEMBER 17TH

Christmas Is A Declaration Of War

Good News...

*I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.*

– Genesis 3:15 (ESV)

Christmas is a declaration of war on everything that separates us from God and the life with Him that we were meant to enjoy now and forever. God sent Jesus to disarm and defeat sin, Satan and death so we can be forgiven and freed. Then, He equips us with the armor of God, the Word of God and the Spirit of God to empower us as we fight our battles against temptation, secure in the truth that Jesus has already secured our victory. Until Jesus comes again to give us final deliverance from it, we expect, endure, hate, expose, resist and overcome evil, but we do not give up in our fight against it.

...Of Great Joy

What did you read today that gave you a renewed enthusiasm in Jesus?

DECEMBER 18TH

It's A Riches To Rags Story

Good News...

For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

– John 6:38-40 (ESV)

From heaven to earth. From a manger to a cross. From suffering to victory. Christmas begins an epic story of how far Jesus would travel, and how hard His journey would be, to bring us back into a loving relationship with our Heavenly Father. His story births our stories where every step is assured because of His faithfulness to do the Father's will to get us safely home to be with Him, where praise and pleasure never end. Christmas reminds us Who Jesus is, why He came, and where He is taking those who trust Him. Jesus came from heaven to earth to make a way for sinners like you and me to go from earth to heaven.

...Of Great Joy

How is today's reading a source of encouragement to you?

DECEMBER 19TH

How Can It Be ... Let It Be

Good News...

And Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word."

– Luke 1:34, 38a (ESV)

How freeing it is to embrace with confidence that God has allowed some things into our lives and other things to be missing from them for a reason that is good. Even if we have no idea what that reason is. Or how it can possibly be for good. God is always doing much more in, for, around and through those who trust Him. Mary trusted. Joseph trusted. We must trust that the unexpected, unexplainable things God has for us are unbelievably good. He knew what He was doing in their lives; He knows what He is doing in our lives. Christmas reminds us that faith in what God says turns our *"how can this be"* into *"let it be."*

...Of Great Joy

What did you read today that leads you to exult in Jesus?

DECEMBER 20TH

He Was Born So We Can Be Born Again

Good News...

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

– Matthew 1:21 (ESV)

We try to ignore it. We try to downplay it. We try to run from it. We try to overcome it. But no matter what we do, we cannot change reality: this world is undeniably broken. What we see is the inevitable ruin that comes when we do what is right in our own eyes and do what feels good over what God says is good. We need... A Hero to save the day. A Liberator to set us free. A Healer to make us whole. A Satisfier to make us content. A Ruler to reign over us for good. A Savior to save us from our sins. Rejoice! Christmas announces that new life can be ours through faith. Jesus was born so we can be born again!

...Of Great Joy

What in today's reading makes you feel overwhelmed by God's goodness toward you?

DECEMBER 21ST

O Come Let Us Adore Him

Good News...

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

- 1 Peter 2:9 (ESV)

Many people celebrate Christmas without celebrating Christ. They love the gifts and the decorations and the food and the music and the sentiment and the gatherings and the movies, but they don't love Jesus. Instead of spending the season adoring Him, they spend the season ignoring Him. That's why we are sent on a mission to tell the world about Jesus, in hope that they will also see His beauty and majesty and generosity. We are to invite others into our joy and into our worship. So, let us use every gift-exchange and gathering to tell of His excellencies. O come let us adore Him. O come let us proclaim Him.

...Of Great Joy

What message from today's reading makes you feel like celebrating?

DECEMBER 22ND

When Jesus Came To Live In This World

Good News...

He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

– Colossians 1:15 (ESV)

People have all kinds of ideas in their heads about God, and these ideas, right or wrong, shape how we view the world and influence how we live in it. When Jesus came to live in this world with us, He made it possible for us to know what God is really like. He displayed God's character, heart, authority, holiness, righteous anger, grace and love for all to see. In looking at Jesus, a few things we see are... Rebuke, authority and truth for the rebellious and self-righteous. Forgiveness, compassion and peace for the broken and repentant. Joy, hope and strength for the followers and the faithful. Love. For. Everyone.

...Of Great Joy

What did you read about Jesus today that makes you glad-hearted?

DECEMBER 23RD

Christmas Is For The Broken

Good News...

*For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son,
in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.*

– Romans 8:29 (ESV)

Jewelry breaks. Toys break. Electronics break. You and I break. God made us in His image, but our sin fractured our likeness to Him and our relationship with Him. But Christmas is for the broken. God loves the broken. He sent Jesus for the broken. The Son of God came to do what we could not do, and die for what we could not do, perfectly bear the image of God. When we put our faith in Him, He puts His Spirit in us, and makes us like Him. Rejoice today! For the Christ Child left the manger and made His way to the cross where the Christmas Gift of God's Son was broken for the broken so that we could be made whole.

...Of Great Joy

Why should what you read today lead you to rejoice?

DECEMBER 24TH

That Is Why There Is Christmas

Good News...

*For by grace you have been saved through faith.
And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.*

– Ephesians 2:8 (ESV)

We will often fail to live out our faith in Jesus and stumble in our walk with Him. We won't always love Him most, love others best, and love rightly all the rest. Instead, we will make ourselves the center of our lives, make self-serving decisions as we plan our lives, and ultimately make a mess out of our lives. That. Is. Why. There. Is. Christmas. Christmas is about a gift of God's Son, a gift of forgiveness, a gift of transformation, a gift of eternal life, a gift of happiness in God. God gave to us and gives to us and will continue to give to us. Christmas is about grace. God's grace. Grace that is greater than all our sin.

...Of Great Joy

In what way does today's reading stir you to joyful worship?

DECEMBER 25TH

Stories Of Christmas

Good News...

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

– Luke 2:20 (ESV)

The point of everything is to point to our glorious God in Whose presence there is fullness of joy and pleasure forever. The Scripture stories of Christmas are ripe with this... Great joy. Peace on earth. Light shining in darkness. Salvation from sin. A forever kingdom. Everlasting life. A Savior. A Reigning King. A Son of the Most High. Christ the Lord. Immanuel. Glory to God in the highest. Christmas shines brightly with God's ultimate purpose: that He be honored in us and we be happy in Him now and forever. Let us return to our everyday lives knowing... God is with us. God is for us. God is to be glorified through us.

...Of Great Joy

What in today's reading is most touching to your heart?

'Twas The Day After Christmas

By Jimmy D. Brown

'Twas the day after Christmas, and all thru the place
Everyone began going back to their old, normal pace.
The tree and the decorations were all neatly put away,
'Til this time next year, tucked in the closet they'd stay.

My son was enjoying his new videos and things,
Me with my electronics and mom with her new rings.
Still way too stuffed with all of the food that we ate,
We forgot all about yesterday's all-important date.

When out on the porch, there arose such a clatter,
I dropped the remote & ran to see what was the matter.
Away to the window, I looked out for a quick view
I peeped around the curtains as I oftentimes do.

The sun was brightly shining; just another new day,
The wonder of Christmas had already slipped away.
When what to my wondering eyes was in store,
But a man with a Bible standing at my front door.

The man was friendly and smiling as Christians should do,
"I wonder if I might have a quick word with you?"
With an outstretched hand, I soon welcomed him in.
He didn't waste time getting to the point in my den.

With Scripture and great kindness, He pointed it out
The good news of Jesus is what Christmas is about.
And that should never be forgotten after the holiday.
It should not be packed with the boxes to stay.

His reminder seemed to strike a chord in my heart
And I knew in that moment I needed a fresh start.
God, help me to know Jesus and love Him more dear.
God, help me to proclaim Him all through the year.

Oh, just give me the words to speak with my voice,
Let my own heart daily come alive and rejoice.
For God has given us this gift of His Son to adore,
Eternal joy for us and glory to God forevermore.

The man's eyes twinkled, his work was almost done.
He had reminded me of the beauty and worth of God's Son.
And then he challenged me, he challenged me still.
So lively and quick, his encouragement was a thrill.

"Now Matthew, now Mark, now Luke and John,
Peter, Andrew, and Paul – disciples every one.
Barnabas and Silas, their testimonies are true.
Well, Jimmy D. Brown, you're a disciple too!"

He banged on the coffee table, and it gave me a shock.
"To the ends of the earth! To the homes on your block!
Say it and show it, spring – summer – winter and fall.
Tell them about Jesus – Now go ye, go ye, go ye all!"

And with that, he headed out the door onto the stoop,
He whistled and smiled and gave a loud whoop!
He sprang to his car, and he drove down the street,
There were many other homes and people to greet.

Then I heard him exclaim with great holiday cheer,
"Let's celebrate Jesus EVERY day of the year!"

Connecting With Me

If you have questions about any of the enclosed material, or if you have any other questions about life with Jesus, please reach out to me by using the *Contact* form at the bottom of the page at *JimmyBrown.com* (making sure you enter your email address correctly). I will personally reply back to you, usually within 24 hours (excluding holidays or weekends).

NOTE: There are a number of free resources available at www.JimmyBrown.com, and I regularly add more to the site. Check back often for additional materials to access at no cost.

Other Connections

- Social media (personal page): www.Facebook.com/thejimmydbrown/
- Daily devotions: www.FinishLineFaith.com or www.Facebook.com/FinishLineFaith/
- Travel / mission vlog (with my wife, Paula): www.TheMissionAmerica.com

*If this resource has been helpful to you, please reach out and let me know.
And please pass this document on to other people who may, by the grace of God, be helped too.*