

## BFFN Message - **Joy** no matter what

- What I love most about Buddy, the Elf!
  - He spreads joy everywhere he goes.
  - Nothing and no one can get him down.
  - People think he down right crazy when they first meet him, but with time his constant joy warms their hearts, puts a smile on their faces and their belief starts to grow!
- Can anyone remember the 3 elf rules from the beginning of the movie? \*cue video clip of elf rules
- Elf Rules - let's take a look at them and see how we can apply them to our lives as humans/Christians
- **1. Treat every day like Christmas!**
  - Video Clip - Buddy gets kicked out of Empire State Building.
  - Buddy doesn't even let being kicked out of his dad's work stop him from being joyful.
  - **1. Have joy in all circumstances!**
  - **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** says, "Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."
- **2. There's room for everyone on the nice list.**
  - Video Clip - Buddy, Dad on the naughty list
  - Buddy will stop at nothing to find his dad and share his joy with him.
  - We should do the same if we know someone who doesn't know Jesus.
  - **2. There is room for everyone in God's kingdom.**
  - **1 Timothy 2:1-4** says, "I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior, who

wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.”

- **3. The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear.**
  - Video Clip - everyone singing in park
  - **3. Spread the joy of the Lord every where you go.**
  - **Romans 15:13** says, "I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit."
  - Paul was always praying for joy and peace for others even when he was facing hard times or even sitting in prison himself.
- There are a lot of things and even people that will try to steal our joy away. We have to remember that the joy of the Lord is our strength and we can be joyful no matter what!

Recap 3 rules we can follow not just at Christmas, but all year long!

- **1. Have joy in all circumstances!**
- **2. There's room for everyone in God's kingdom!**
- **3. Spread the joy of the Lord everywhere you go!**