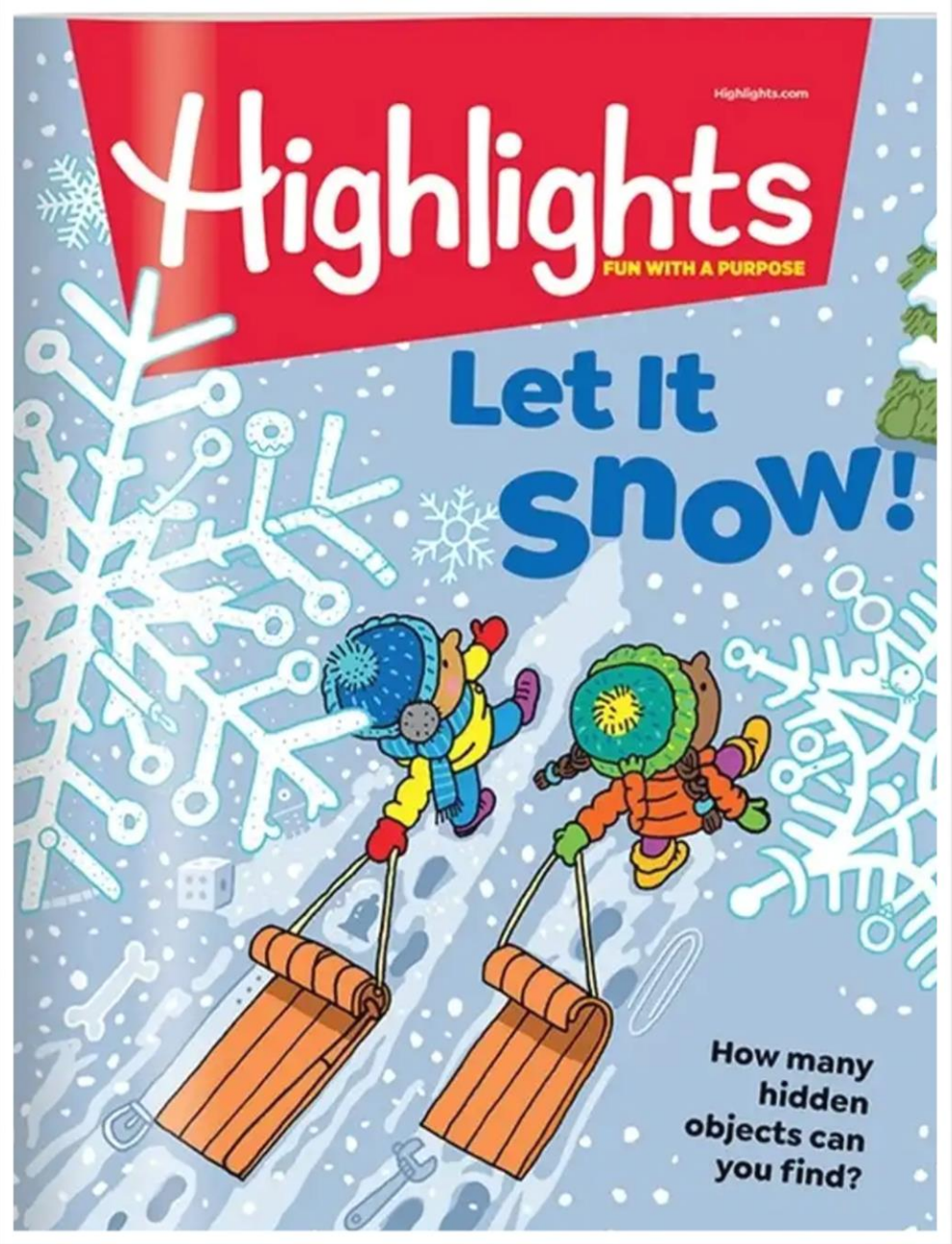




*the way in is the way on
surprised by joy*

Romans 14:17

For the kingdom of God is not
a matter of eating and drinking, but of
righteousness, peace and joy
in the Holy Spirit



Mark 12:28-34 (NIV) ...he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”²⁹ “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

Mark 12:28-34 (Con't) 32 “Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. 33 To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.” 34 When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.”

Joy is found in our connection with God & others

Psalm 126:3 The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 ¹⁹ For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? ²⁰ Indeed, you are our glory and joy.









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Finding & Experiencing Joy

- Joy is a foundational characteristic of God & His kingdom
- Joy is connected to love, presence, & connection with God & others
- Joy is deep, rich, life giving, powerful & transforming
- Joy is supernatural & eternal. It is not dependent on circumstances
- Joy is something that we are to value, desire, & receive

Boring/Mundane

Sharing a Meal

Prayer or
worship

Noticing beauty

When you do
what God has
asked of you

In the midst of
struggle

In the routines
of life

Reflection

Time with
those you
love

When you see
something good

Driving

Creative spaces

When something
makes you
smile/laugh

Finding Joy in All of Life