



Choose Joy

Main Scripture: Phil 1:1-6

Additional Scriptures: Neh 8:1-; 2 cor 1:24; Rom 14

Discussion Questions

You were made for joy. It's true, deep inside of us we seek after this feeling of joy. Our problem is we sometimes run after happiness thinking it will solve our need for fulfillment. The way we can live a life full of the Spirit is to enter into the joy of God.

JOY is NOT HAPPINESS

- What is your first response to, "Are you happy?"
- If you were unhappy, what would make you happy?
- What about joy? How do you define this in your own life?
- How does real joy strengthen your beliefs and the way you handle circumstances?

JOY is NOT a FEELING

- Where did Paul write the letter to the Philippians? What were his circumstances at this time?
- How does he balance his present condition with genuine faith and concern for his fellow believers?

JOY is NOT the passive reaction to circumstances outside our control

- Have you wrestle with, "I've been good, why is this going bad for me?"
- How do you balance your faith with circumstances that are out of your hand and difficult to manage or control? What keeps you strong in these times?

CUT THE CORD

- How do you cut the cord between you and your circumstances?
- Grace is our ability to cease from striving, how do you practice that in your life?

JOY: JESUS – OTHERS – YOU

- How does serving others help us keep the right perspective?
- Why is serving in the church encouraged? What does that look like to you or what benefit does it have?