

THAT YOU MAY KNOW

That Your Joy May Be Full
John 16:16-24
March 26, 2023

Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn to joy. - John 16:20

I. CONFUSION ABOUND

- Jesus is preparing the disciples for his arrest, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension. The disciples are in for a wild ride (Vss. 16-17).
- Jesus has shared many thoughts with the disciples. In their state of fear and sadness, they are confused as to what he is trying to make known to them.

II. TRIALS TURNED TO JOY

- The “world” will have its day, but final joy belongs to disciples of Christ (Vs. 20; 2 Cor. 6:1-10).
- Great joy has a tendency to push back sorrow; even pain (Vs. 21; Isa. 61:1-4).
- The disciples will see Jesus again, and joy will return, and not just for a season. Their joy will be unsuppressed (Vs. 22).
- A new era is about to dawn in the life of the disciples. Grief will give way to joy, and life in the Spirit will begin (John 20:19-23).
- We too live in that new era. We too can know, and expect, great joy.

III. FULL JOY

- In the day of the Spirit, petitions will be made to the Father through the Spirit in the name of the Son (Vs. 23).
- All we need to complete our mission is at our disposal. Ask, and receive. In receiving, know the joy of the Lord (Vs. 24; James 4:1-3).
- It is okay to pursue joy in our Christian life, and to get it back if we have lost it (Ps. 51:8-12).

KNOW: Life is full of joys and sorrows. A life in Christ—a life in pursuit of Christ—is a life filled with joy.

DO: Seek a life of full joy. Ask God, and receive.

Suggested Reading:

The Pursuit of God by A.W. Tozer (Available in the LifePoint Library)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read John 16:16-24

1. Place yourself, as best you can, in the disciples' situation. Would you find yourself confused?
2. Looking back with the benefit of hindsight, what was Jesus saying to the disciples?
3. Do you find joy in your walk with Christ? Why or why not?
4. Why are many Christians downtrodden in life? What can they do about it?
5. Is it possible to pursue joy in a faithful manner? Should Christians be happy people, generally speaking?
6. How does asking and receiving from God lead to full joy?
7. What can you apply to your own life from this passage/message?