

reclaiming your joy

Reclaiming Your Joy

John 15:11, 16:20-24

July 24, 2022

Introduction: What do you think of when you hear the word Joy? How can Joy become characteristic of our life? What is the difference between happiness and joy? What is the source of the Christian's joy? Who is the source of the Christian's joy? The Bible says God gives us joy and peace. It tells us that real joy comes from God and is ours forever. The joy that is found in God's presence isn't static; it transforms and regenerates us. At the heart of joy is an unshakable awareness that we possess good from God. Joy is part of God's kingdom.

Prayer: Father, we look forward to this text and the ones that follow for "reclaiming our joy". Amen.

Read: John 15:11, 16:20-24

Review: What do you recall about prayer being an "act of surrender"?

Discussion:

1. What does 15:11 mean when it promises that your (our) joy may be complete?
2. In 16:20-24, what was Jesus preparing his disciples for? How did he encourage them?
3. Why did Jesus use the analogy of a baby's birth for his male disciples?
4. How can God's joy in your life be a defense against the despair which is present in the world?
5. Jesus said "In that day you will no longer ask me for anything". How is that different than before?

Application: Believe in God's gift of joy this week in every part of your life.

Prayer: Father, we see your joy as another act of your grace in our lives – thank you. Amen