

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Daniel Groves | Are You Full Of It?
The Evidence: Week 3

Main Idea

Have you ever been tested? In real time, our joy will be tested. But if it cost you your joy then it was way too expensive. "Happiness comes from good times, but Joy comes from a good God." Authentic joy is found in God's presence. Where is the evidence of your joy?

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.
Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)*

*Additional Scriptures: 1 Chronicles 16:27, Psalm 16:11, 19:8, 28:7, 34:8, 119:1-3,
Nehemiah 8:10*

WE HAVE JOY BECAUSE OF THE CROSS

No matter what, we win! We have joy because of the price Jesus paid on Calvary. True joy starts with repentance, and righteousness and holiness. What is the evidence of your repentance?

WE CAN STILL EXPERIENCE JOY IN THE MIDST OF A FALLEN WORLD

For the unbeliever, this life is as close to heaven as they'll ever experience. For the believer, this life is as close to hell as we'll ever know. How is the world seeing our joy and confidence that we are walking as a son or daughter of the living God?

JOY IS ACTIVATED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

“And the disciples were filled with Joy and the Holy Spirit” (2 Timothy 1:5-7)

Joy is made possible through the revelation of Jesus that is given to us through scripture, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. How is the source of your hope connected to your joy? In what way has the Holy Spirit turned your mourning into dancing?

Additional Scripture: Romans 15:13, Psalms 30:11-12

Summary

Our JOY is non-negotiable. Choosing joy during challenging circumstances is never easy, specifically when we are tempted to ignore God's wisdom and to follow our own ways. Strength and joy are found in His presence. Joy comes from turning our eyes towards heaven. When we see God in the small moments, we refocus upwards, and that's when we see the Joy that He dwells in.

Call To Action

A goal without a plan is just a wish. A goal with a plan produces results. Day-to-day decisions define destinies. Let's continue to allow the Holy Spirit to change the way we walk, talk, and act by considering these calls to action this week.

1. Pastor Daniel gave us an acronym for JOY: Jesus, Others, You. Take a moment to examine if you are unlocking true joy in your life by having those in the right order.
2. Ask your spouse or a close friend to share with you the evidence of the joy they see in you?
3. What better way to experience true joy with others then by serving on our DREAM TEAM or LEADING or JOINING a Connect Group.
4. Mark your calendars for a special Saturday night service on March 4, 6PM, at the West Houston Campus.

Group Leader Resource

Game: Solemn and Silent

The instructor explains that this exercise will take self control. Members pair back to back. On the count of three, everyone must face their partner, look each other in the eyes, and then try to remain solemn and serious. No speaking! The first to smile or laugh must sit down. All who remain standing then take a new partner and the activity continues until only one person has not smiled or laughed. (Second round of playing can involve two teams competing to outlast each other.) If you get a pair at the end who are both keeping a straight face, the rest of the group can act as hecklers to disrupt them.