



## Family Conversation Guide

(December 12, 2021)

**Have you ever had to push through a painful problem, only to discover joy on the other side of it?** This week, David Chadwick teaches that **no matter what happens to us, we can have joy and peace.** Happiness can be due to circumstances, but joy is not caused by circumstances. Joy is an internal/eternal feeling. Because of our relationship with Jesus, we have joy and peace no matter what happens..

### Read and Discuss

Turn in your Bibles to [John 16:16-33](#). Read through the passage together, then listen to the sermon.

1. Start out by reading the last verse of the passage, [John 16:33](#). **What does it say that we can be assured will happen?** (*In this world we will have tribulation*) **What are some of the tribulations in this world that we will have to face?** (*Have family members list things that are happening in the world that could be called tribulations*)
2. **What does Jesus say He will bring us?** (*In Him we will have peace*) **Why are we able to take heart even when bad things happen?** (*Because Jesus has already overcome the world and all of these bad things! That means we have overcome with Him.*)
3. In [John 16:16-19](#). **Why were the disciples confused?** (*Because Jesus told them that "in a little while" they would not see Him, and then they would see Him again*)

4. Read **verse 20**. **Jesus knew that the disciples would weep and lament when He was gone, but the world would rejoice. Why?** (*Because Jesus would be killed- His followers would grieve, but the world, who did not know who He was, would be glad.*) **He then said their sorrow would turn to joy. Why?** (*Because He would be raised from the dead. Jesus would leave them again to go to heaven, and He promised to return again one day.*)
5. Read **verse 21**. **What did Jesus compare this to?** (*He compared it to a woman giving birth to a child, the pain and then the joy when her child is born. Jesus is telling them to push through the sorrow, push through the mourning, because joy will come to you.*)
6. In **verse 23**, **what does Jesus say?** (*We need to pray, asking the Father in Jesus name, and He will give us anything we ask of Him*)
7. **Do you believe you can ask the Father for anything in Jesus' name?** Jesus wants us to have faith that He can do anything. Read **verse 24**. **Does God love to give good gifts to His children?** Jesus promises us that joy will follow our sorrows.
8. **What if God doesn't give us what we ask for?** (*Keep praying, keep persisting. Pray in God's will. Sometimes God doesn't give us what we ask for, and we can see later it was not His will, and we submit to the Father.*)
9. Read **verses 25-26**. **Why did Jesus talk with them in figures of speech up until now?** (*So they would understand*) But now, they can understand about the Father, and they need to know that the Father loves them because of what Jesus did for them. God sent Jesus to die in order to rescue us, and He made a way for us to have a close relationship with the Father.
10. In **verses 29-30**, **what do the disciples finally understand?** (*That Jesus knows all things and they can believe everything He says*)

11. Now that Jesus is speaking plainly, He tells them what will happen. Read **verse 32**. Jesus knew that the hour was coming for His arrest and death. The disciples would be scattered, and He would be alone. **But Who would be with Him?** *(The Father)*
  
12. Finally, we go back to **verse 33**. **Why does Jesus tell them these things?** *(So they will have peace, no matter what happens)* **And why can we have joy in our trials and tribulations?** *(Because we know Jesus has overcome the world)*
  
13. If we believe in Jesus, we live in Him and He lives in us. Jesus gives us peace (Shalom) and joy. **According to David Chadwick, what causes the peace we have in Jesus?** *(It is Jesus' PRESENCE. We know there will be tribulation if we live in this world, but we can take heart and have courage, because we know that Jesus has overcome all the brokenness in the world. One day, He will restore this world to be our eternal home.)*

### **Family Challenge:**

**Can you think of a time when you had great joy after a bad time in your life? When you pushed through, got to the other side of the hard times, and found joy? Did you see how God worked through your hard times and that you could look back to see how He brought good out of them?** *(Discuss)*

Read **Isaiah 43:2**. **Does God promise that we will not have hard times?** *(No, He says we will pass through the waters, we will walk through the fire. He will be with us, we are His!)*

Ask family members if they are facing tribulations and trouble right now. **How can you pray for each other?** *(Pray to the Father in Jesus' name)*

During this Christmas season, find somewhere your family can bring the love of Jesus to someone who is going through a hard time. Here is a list of our ministry partners who serve the poor and underprivileged: <https://www.mohconline.org/serve-out>

### Prayer:

Father, We pray in Jesus' name for \_\_\_\_\_. Help us to understand that Jesus came to this world so that we could understand how much You love us and so that we could be saved and have a relationship with You. Thank You for being with us through the hard times, and for bringing us joy and peace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### For Younger Kids or for the Whole Family:

Leading up to Christmas, **spend some time reading Christmas books and listening to Christmas music with your little ones.** This week, watch "The First Christmas Gift" in the Bible App for Kids. <https://www.youversion.com/the-bible-app-for-kids>