



FROM THE BIBLE
Psalm 97:12a (NLT '96)
Proverbs 14:12 (NIV)
1 John 2:16-17 (NLT)
Psalm 97:12 (NLT '96)

MESSAGE TO CONVERSATION GUIDE

Week 1 | I Want You To Be Happy!

1. Have someone ever been convinced that you said something...that you didn't actually say? Can you give an example? How did that make you feel?
2. In this message, Joel said, there's certain things that we're convinced that God said but when we look in the Bible, we find out *God never said that*. Before this message, did you think God said, *I want you to be happy*?
3. You're probably guessing by now (if you missed the message) that God never said, *my #1 goal for you is happiness*. The reason that matters is because when we live by the Gospel of Happiness we start living by, *if it makes me happy, it must be RIGHT and if it doesn't make me happy, it must be WRONG*. How can this steer us wrong?
4. If our happiness is God's #1 goal then that'd mean that God exists to serve us. However, in this message we learned that we exist to serve God. Why is that an important difference & how will it effect how we live?
5. Read Proverbs 14:12. How can our *feelings* steer us wrong? Can you give an example?
6. In this message, Joel said, *it brings God joy to see you (His kids) happy but his #1 goal for you isn't happiness, it's holiness*. Can you give an example when a parent prioritizes their child's character over their child's happiness?
7. Our cultures formula for happiness is *nice things + perfect appearance + thrilling experiences + the right relationships + perfect circumstances = happiness*. Why is this basically impossible to attain?
8. Read 1 John 2:16-17. What's the different outcome of chasing cultures formula for happiness and living to please God?
9. Joel ended this message by asking us, *can you pick 1 area of your life that your chasing happiness over holiness...& change it?* Were you able to identify something? If you're comfortable sharing, what is it & how are you going to tackle it?