



Title: Simply Jesus: Sorrow to Joy

Scripture: John 16:16-24

Date: 10-15-2017

Bible Version: ESV

BOTTOM LINE: Jesus cares about our journey through sorrow to joy. His resurrection gives us joy for the future and a hope to handle the pain of today.

Vs. 16-17

A little while, and you will not see me- The disciples didn't realize that his death was just hours away.

Again a little while, and you will see me- Jesus most likely is referring to when he will appear to them after his resurrection.

Vs. 18

What does he mean by 'a little while'- The disciples were confused and uncertain of Jesus' meaning. They were concerned with the specifics of when he would return and why he was leaving.

We can get caught up in the when and why of trials in our own life and forget to trust God through the process.

Man says show me and I'll trust you. God say trust me and I'll show you.

Vs. 19

Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him-God knows our sorrow better than we know and is empathetic to our struggles.

Jesus understood that the disciples wanted more clarity; but He also knew that they needed more than information. They needed their hearts and minds prepared to endure the coming crisis. -Guzik

Vs. 20-22

Truly, truly, I say to you- Jesus sets out to help prepare their hearts and minds to journey from sorrow to joy.

1. **A principle to hold on to:** The object of your pain can ultimately produce great joy.

Vs. 20

You will weep and lament- The disciples would be plunged into great sorrow after Christ's crucifixion.

But your sorrow will turn into joy- When Jesus appears after his resurrection the disciples were filled with exceeding joy.

Vs. 21

When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow- Jesus gives a real life illustration of how a painful experience can ultimately bring joy.

God does not remove the object and replace it with something else to bring joy.

It is not substitution, it is transformation. He uniquely can take the very thing that produces the pain and use it to provide the joy. -Courson

Vs. 22

I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you- The disciples' joy was related to seeing Christ.

The cross was the source of sorrow, but now looking back it is the source of joy.

It is most remarkable and instructive that the apostles do not appear in their sermons or epistles to have spoken of the death of our Lord with any kind of regret. The gospels mention their distress during the actual occurrence of the crucifixion, but after the resurrection, and especially after Pentecost, we hear of no such grief. -Spurgeon

2. A power to plug into- The power of prayer!

Vs. 23

Whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you-

Prayer is made possible through our Mediator, Jesus Christ and it's by his authority and in line with his character that we are to pray.

To pray in His name means two things. Authority and Conformity. – Courson

Vs. 24

Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full- If you want to have fullness of joy, pray.

If we were really convinced that prayer often changes the way God acts, and that God does bring about remarkable changes in response to prayer (as Scripture repeatedly teaches), then we would pray much more than we do. If we pray very little, it is probably because we do not really believe that prayer accomplishes much at all. - Grudem

If you want an effective prayer life you must plan for it.

Prayerlessness always produces joylessness. -Piper

The power of prayer allows us to journey from sorrow to joy.

October 15th, 2017

Discuss

Dig Deeper



Simply Jesus: Sorry To Joy

John 16:16-24

3D Guide

DO.

BOTTOM LINE: Jesus cares about our journey through sorrow to joy. His resurrection gives us joy for the future and a hope to handle the pain of today.



1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
4. What is your prayer for today?



DISCUSS.

1. Do you think God allows or designs seasons of uncertainty in our life? Why?
2. How can sorrow be transformed into joy? Have you seen examples of this in your own life?
3. What does Biblical joy look like? Does it mean to always be happy and upbeat?
4. Describe the joy that will eventually come to us when Jesus returns. Why is it necessary for believers to know this?
5. How can a Christian cultivate deeper joy in their life? How is our prayer life related to our level of joy?

DO.



Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try a the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on blueletterbible.com or with their app.



Parents & Kids

TAKE **HOME**

DATE: October 15th, 2017

Scripture: Philip & the Ethiopian Acts 8:26-40

Take Home Questions:

1. In the story, Philip found out good news. Who was the good news about? (Jesus!)
2. After he found out the good news about Jesus, did Philip keep it to himself or find more people and tell them the good news, too? (He found more people and told them the good news, too!)
3. How did the official respond to the good news that Philip shared with him? (He believed it, decided to follow Jesus and got baptized!)
4. Since we've found out the good news, should we find more people to share it with like Philip did? (Yes!)

Memory Verse: "God is able to do far more than we could ever ask or imagine" - Eph. 3:20

