

SERMON REFLECTION GUIDE

Luke, Part 35: Joy Increasing - Luke 10:17-24 - July 20, 2025 - (Silverleaf Service)

SERMON OUTLINE

<u>Intro</u> - We all know that bad days can spiral and that 'when it rains, it pours', but can good days spiral upwards as well? Can things really get better and better? The disciples' and Jesus' *joy increases* throughout our text.

A. GREAT JOY (v. 17-19)

The 72 disciples return from their short term mission trip full of *joy* at their success, especially in casting out the demonic through Jesus' name.

They now know: Greater is he that is in me than he that is in the world. (1 John 4:4)

Jesus asserts both his *eternality* and his *authority*, saying that he "saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven." (v. 18)

Biblically, the devil actually does go about 'on his belly... all the days of his life' (see: Gen. 3:14) Jesus' victory over the devil should also bring us **joy**!

B. GREATER JOY (v. 20)

Illustration: Martyn Lloyd-Jones quoting this verse on his deathbed.

Jesus says, in essence — Joy of Eternal Life >> Joy of Power over Satan

"The Book of Life" - referenced metaphorically throughout the Bible, OT & NT, symbolizing proof of citizenship with God in heaven.

To be honest, we have no ground for rejoicing at all unless our salvation is secure. And yet, there is yet an even greater joy in our text.

C. GREATEST JOY (v. 21-24)

Luke 10:21 is only place in the entire NT that tells us explicitly that **Jesus rejoiced**. χάρις (charis) - **joy** (v. 17, 20)

άγαλλιάω (agalliaō) - **overjoyed** (v. 21) - Jesus has the greatest joy, a perfect joy.

This is a joy unburdened by sin, and extending beyond circumstance - it is Jesus' joy in his position within the Godhead and his role in salvation.

The gospel of Luke does not feature "Father" language as a theme, the word only appears about 20 times, but 5 of them are here within two verses.

Jesus is making a huge statement about his relationship with the Father, and how that relationship extends to sinners to whom Jesus reveals the Father.

Jesus chooses to reveal the Father to the humble, those who are needy like children—ready and willing to embrace the gift of grace in the gospel.

Jesus is thrilled to reveal the Father to the Father's children, that they too can share in his joy.

SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the disciples' initial joy? How does this come from Christ?
- 2. How can the greater joy of verse 20 really apply to any other joys in our lives? How often do you pause to rejoice in your salvation?
- 3. Why is Jesus' joy the greatest of all? What is he rejoicing in?
- 4. If joy is something modeled by Jesus and the disciples and even a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22), why do so many Christians appear to live joyless lives?