

Connect Group Guide: “Unapologetically Joyful”



Passage: Philippians 3:18-4:4; John 15:9-11; John 16:16-22

Sermon Link: [▶ Unapologetically Joyful](#)

Welcome:

(Choose a question for your group to discuss)

- What is one thing that brings you great joy?
- Share one happy memory from the past year.

Worship:

(May choose to use YouTube or other mediums to facilitate your time of worship)

- Link: [▶ Brooke Ligertwood - A Thousand Hallelujahs \(Lyric Video\)](#)

Word:

(Discuss these questions in your group, encourage everyone to take part)

Before reading the scripture:

- What is the difference between joy and happiness?

Read: Philippians 4:4

- Paul calls us to “rejoice in the Lord always”. Do you think Paul was blind to the pain and suffering in the world when he made this statement? Explain.
- “Happiness comes from your circumstances and joy comes from within.” Discuss this statement with regards to Paul’s call to rejoice.

Read: John 15:9-11

- What is the joy that Jesus speaks of that will remain in us?
- How can the love of the Father impact your joy?
- God’s love is unchanging towards us, so why do we lose our joy?

Read: John 16:16-22

- Jesus warns of a time of sorrow and suffering, but what is the promise that He makes?
- How can Jesus say that our joy will never be taken from us?
- God’s eternal love is the source of true joy. Discuss this statement.

Works:

(Take some time for personal reflecting on the following questions and then share back with the group)

- In what way has circumstances impacted your joy?
- How does trusting in God as your loving Father affect your joy?
- How have you experienced true joy in times of sorrow?

Closing:

(Remember to ask for prayer requests.)

- Read Romans 15:13 and pray it over one another.

