

The Quest for Joy- John 15 February 19, 2023

We were made for joy, and nothing less than knowing the love of our trinitarian God will satisfy. As we return to Jesus' farewell words, we hear his invitation to find everlasting joy by abiding in Him.

For personal reflection/community discussion

**Read** – Read the passage in its context several times. Read it slow enough to understand what God is saying through it.

- What ideas or words are emphasised, repeated or related in this passage?
- In your own words, what is the main idea of this passage? (Try to summarise these verses in 10 words or less)

**Examine** – Next, try to understand the specifics of what the passage is communicating.

- What do you notice about God? What has he done/is he doing in these verses?
- What do you learn about Jesus and his gospel from this passage?
- What does it reveal about people?
- How do you think the writer wanted his reader to respond to these words?

**Apply** - After seeking to understand God's Word in this passage, consider how he intends to use it in your heart and life today.

- Pete spoke of joy as the reason we make every decision in our life, however outside of Christ all joys are temporary, elusive and even disappointing. How have you seen this pursuit for joy play out in your life? Think of concrete examples.
- Be honest. Where are you most insecure? How might grasping hold of John 15:9 bring a deep sense of security?
- Towards the end of his message Pete quoted the words below. Do you consider the love that Christ has for you like this? What stops you rejoicing in the magnitude of the Saviour's love?

"Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made; Were every stalk on earth a quill, And every man a scribe by trade:

To write the love of God above

Would drain the ocean dry,

Nor could the scroll contain the whole

Though stretched from sky to sky."