

God, I am Just Grateful:

Joy for the Journey

Sermon Synopsis: To know Him is to know joy, and joy is not circumstantial happiness — it is the strength, assurance, and deep delight that flows from knowing God personally and walking with Him daily.

1. Joy Comes from the Presence of the Lord

- a. Joy Is Found *In* Him, Not Just *From* Him
- b. Knowing God Is *Relational*, Not *Informational*
- c. *Distance* From God Always *Affects* Joy

Psalm 16:11(NLT) - You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence, and the pleasures of living with you forever

2. Joy Is Our Strength for the Journey

- a. Joy *Doesn't Deny* Pain
- b. The *Source* of Our Strength *Matters*
- c. Joy *Fuels* Obedience, Endurance, and Restoration

Nehemiah 8:10 (NLT) - “And Nehemiah^a continued, “Go and celebrate with a feast of rich foods and sweet drinks, and share gifts of food with people who have nothing prepared. This is a sacred day before our Lord. Don’t be dejected and sad, for the joy of the Lord is your strength!”

3. Joy Is Drawn Daily from God’s Faithfulness

Isaiah 12:3 (NLT) – With joy you will drink deeply from the fountain of salvation!

4. Joy Remains Even in Trials When We Know Him

- a. *Knowing* Him *Matters*

James 1:2 (NLT) - “Dear brothers and sisters,^a when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.⁴ So let it grow, for when

your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.”