

Philadelphia Church

His Joy Our Strength

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Pastor Derek Forseth

Quote

“I'm convinced that life is 10% what happens and 90% how I react to it.” - C.S.

Nehemiah 8:2-8

2 So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. 3 He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. 4 Ezra the teacher of the Law stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion. Beside him on his right stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah and Maaseiah; and on his left were Pedaiah, Mishael, Malkijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam.

Cont.

5 Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. 6 Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. 7 The Levites—Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah—instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. 8 They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

Question

If those around you had to rely on you for their faith
what would they get?

Good Sorrow (Godly)

Desire for change followed by repentance.

Bad Sorrow (Worldly)

Wallowing in guilt and condemnation.

2 Corinthians 7: 10

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

Nehemiah 8:9-10

9 Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. 10 Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Joy Killers

- God is not pleased with you
- You will never do it right
- You can't possibly please Him
- You have messed up too many times
- Heaven is not for you

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Philippians 1:6

Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Growing in Faith (3D's)

1. Disciplined in the word
2. Dedicated to prayer
3. Devoted to Fellowship

Happiness vs. Joy

Happiness

- Happiness is the result of external circumstances

Joy

- Joy is contentment, having hope and peace no matter the circumstance

John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

1 Peter 5:8

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Which Voice is Your Choice

○ The one who condemns and destroys?

○ The one who convicts and restores?

WHICH ONE ARE YOU?



○ Video

Psalm 51:9-15

Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. 10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you. 14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. 15 Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.

Quote

“Joy is not in things, it is in us.” - Unknown