

See the World Part 3 – “Mission”
March 18, 2018

John 17:13

I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.

John 15:11

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

Luke 10:20-21

“However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.”

Luke 15:10

In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

- Joy is a satisfied feeling in the soul, produced by the Holy Spirit, as he causes us to see Jesus at work in the word and in the world.

John 17:14-16

I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.

- Living on mission will bring opposition.

John 17:17

Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

- sanctify: to set apart for a sacred purpose.

John 17:18-19

As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

Hebrews 12:1-2

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the **joy** set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Think it over:

- How much **joy** are you experiencing?
- How are you seeing Jesus at work in the **word**?
- How are you seeing Jesus at work in the **world**?

Oh what a happy soul I am, although I cannot see
I am resolved that in this world, contented I shall be
How many blessings I enjoy that other people don't
To weep and sigh because I'm blind? I cannot and I won't

Fanny Crosby

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see

Fanny Crosby

Groups

1. Do you spend time with joyful people on a daily basis? If so, why are they joyful? If not, what seems to sap their joy?
2. Does our culture encourage us to look for joy? If so, in what ways? If not, what does it encourage us to seek?
3. Read John 17:13. What did Jesus pray for before his death? What do you think that means?
4. Your notes have a definition of joy. Look up a few New Testament verses about joy. Are there any changes you might make to the definition?
5. From your perspective, what is the highest source of truth in our culture? Why is it critical to have the source of absolute truth to be outside of ourselves?
6. Is it possible to have joy aside from pursuing the mission of Jesus in the world? Explain.
7. What's one thing you can do this week to increase your joy? What can this Group do to help?