

Series: Real Life on Purpose

January 29, 2023

Message: Purpose-filled Joy

Nehemiah 8:10 | Matthew 11:28-30 | John 15:11 | Romans 10:13
Galatians 5:22 | Ephesians 1:17 | Philippians 1:6, 20-21; 2:3; 4:4
Hebrews 12:15

What is Real Life on purpose? *To know God and live in relationship with Him.*

Joy is a distinctive quality of walking with Jesus.

Joy is relational.

Joy is a process, not a destination.

Measure your joy.

Joy Blockers:

- Selfishness
- Bitterness
- Fear
- I don't have the Holy Spirit.
- Limiting the Holy Spirit.

My action steps:

1. Measure my joy.
2. Accept Jesus.
3. Confess anything that blocks my joy.
4. Allow the Spirit to free you of it.
5. Open up completely to the Spirit.

Life Group Study

For week of January 29, 2023

Many of our Life Groups use this insert as a discussion guide throughout the week. We encourage you to take that next step in your journey with Jesus & His church by joining one today! <https://rlc.pub/groups>

Share your story

Looking back over what Jeff talked about on Sunday, was there something you'd like to share?

Take a moment to think over your journey with Jesus to this point in your life. What are some areas where you've seen growth? What are some areas where God is still working on you?

Have you seen Him increase your joy whether the journey has been smooth or rocky? What does your joy depend on?

Connect to God's story

Read Psalm 46

Contentment found in the Scriptures does not mean we have to love everything just the way it is, but it does mean we can have joy in the midst of our hardships. How does this passage help us better learn to be content even in hard times?

When things happen that are out of your control, who do you run to?
What is the connection between securely resting in the Lord and joy?

Read Galatians 5:19-26

Paul contrasts desires of the flesh with what the Holy Spirit desires to produce in us. How can living in pursuit of whatever our body desires lead to a joyless life?

What does following the Spirit's leading look like? Is the Holy Spirit producing His fruit in your life? What can get in the way?

Read Hebrews 11:32-12:4.

What are a few things that you observe in this passage?

How does faith, trust and joy complement each other? (especially in the midst of hardship)

What was Jesus taking joy in as he endured the cross and the associated shame of bearing the sin of the world? How can all of this help build our perseverance?

What is one thing God wants you to rejoice in this week?

THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful relationships with Jesus and each other through the study of God's Word (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25).

Here's how we accomplish this in our community throughout the week:

SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life by following Jesus.

SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16).

Throughout the Life Group session, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways the Father has designed you to serve and make a difference in His kingdom as He conforms you to the image of His Son! (Romans 8:28-30)