

Finding Joy in Our Circumstances Notes

Luke 1:5-17, 25, 41, 44, 46, 47, 57-58, 2:8-20

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1. How have you felt when you have discovered something in your life?
2. How would you define joy and happiness?
3. Why does the path to joy meanders through pain?
4. What does pain teach us?
5. What can we give to others because of the pain we have suffered?
6. What does it mean to be righteous?
7. Why are the righteous not excluded from pain?
8. In what ways is our culture wrong about what it considers to be a blessing? Do you have some of these same ideas? What can we do to replace these ideas in our head with the truth?
9. How can our ideas or our cultures ideas about blessings cause harm to ourselves and others? What can we do to help others you feel the pain from this?
10. What does it mean to persevere? When do you feel like giving up?
11. How has God answered your prayers?
12. How are you pointing people back to God and helping them to be righteous, confess sin, repent, worship, and be in right-standing with God?
13. Is there something in your life you need to repent of? Take time to do so right now.
14. How did God answer Zechariah and Elizabeth's prayer way beyond anything they could have imagined? Has God done this for you? If so, how did He do it?
15. Have you ever noticed your mood changed once you have spent time worshipping and studying God's word? Briefly give an example. If this is the case, what can help you to go from sadness to joy more quickly?
16. Why is it not a good idea to change standards? Why does God not change His standard of righteousness?
17. What is the only way for us to be righteous in God's sight?
18. Why does sin kill our joy?
19. When we have sinned, what is the only way to get our joy back?
20. Give an example of a time you shared the Gospel with someone that brought you great joy?