

Free. . .

...to have Joy – John 15:9-12

Discussion Points

January 10, 2021

Read/Reflect

1. Read John 15:9-12, paying special attention to verse 11. What are some of the connections you make between the love that Jesus is talking about and the joy that you experience?
2. Reading a wider context (e.g. John 15:5-17), identify the kinds of things that can make joy complete?

Explore

3. What makes you laugh and smile? What makes your heart leap, what excites you? What brings you joy?
4. Is it possible to have joy even when events and circumstances are uncomfortable, or even miserable? If so, (when) have you experienced that?
5. In his book on the Fruit of the Spirit, Christopher Wright suggests the following four sources of joy. Can you identify any of these in your own life?
 - 1) the joy of belonging (family),
 - 2) the joy of celebrations (a feast)
 - 3) the joy of salvation (faith)
 - 4) the joy of a new heaven and new earth (hope)
6. Why does joy sometimes go missing in your life? How might you regain or sustain it?
 - I forget to be joyful
 - I am suspicious of joy
 - Sadness overwhelms me

Pray

- ✝ *whether for yourself or another person (in your group), that God would reveal a sense of joy – perhaps in one of the four sources of joy (from question 5 above).*

