

Joy (10/6/24)

Discussion Questions

Summary: We are commanded to “rejoice in the Lord.” We are promised joy as we walk with Him. But when we suffer in this world, how can we experience this kind of joy? Jesus gives us four important reminders to kindle our joy: 1) our sorrows are brief; 2) our Savior is coming; 3) our salvation will be glorious and; 4) our supplications will be answered. Be encouraged by the goodness of our Lord and His promises to us!

“A little while and you will see me no longer, and again a little while and you will see me.”
John 16:16

To rejoice in your suffering, remember:

- Your sorrows are **Brief** (v. 16-18)

“For this light and momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory that far outweighs them all.” 2 Cor. 4:17

- Your Savior is **Coming** (v. 19)

“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.” Rom. 8:18

- Your salvation will be **Glorious** (v. 20-22)

“Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.” 1 John 3:2

- Your supplications will be **Answered**
in Jesus' name (v. 23-24)

“In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.” John 16:23-24

Get Started:

1. Share a high and low from this year: what has been your greatest joy and what has been a major struggle?
2. How has the Lord sustained you through the hard times?

Dig In: Read John 16:16-24

3. What stands out to you in this passage?
4. What was the “a little while” Jesus mentioned here?
5. What does the giving birth analogy have to do with our present sufferings?
6. Why do you think this passage ends with another promise of answered prayer?

Move Forward:

- Choose a country to read about here: <https://www.persecution.com/globalprayerguide>
- Spend some time praying for the persecuted Christians there.
- Use the promises in our passage to pray for those believers and for each other.