

“Surprised by JOY”
A Personal or Small Group Experience

Joy !

What is Joy?

What does Jesus mean by Joy?

I wonder why Jesus slipped the promise of “JOY” in during this discussion about bearing fruit by “remaining” in Him.

What does Joy have to do with “vine and branches living”?
Apparently a great deal!

Dig around in this “vine and branches” section of scripture and let the Holy Spirit teach you about JOY—and better yet JOY that is complete!

READ and discuss **John 15:1-11** with particular emphasis on how Jesus uses the concept of Joy!

How important is our Joy to Jesus?

Here is another section of John in which “Joy” is mentioned!

John 16:16-24

Finally, here are two verse sections where “joy” and “rejoicing” are revealed! Enjoy these verses especially in how they reveal that the key to Joy is connection with Jesus!

Galatians 5:19-26

Philippians 4:4-7

“I Am....”

The Vine You are the Branches”

“Connecting With God” Weekly Guide

This booklet is a resource to help you “Connect with God” this week. He deeply desires ongoing personal connection with you. You are that important to Him.

This Page has some scripture verses for you to meditate on each day this week. Notice the helpful hints section – these are great things to consider when personally engaging with God through His Word.

The Center Pages contain the notes and outline for the message given on Sunday. The message is also available as an audio download from www.pointofgracechurch.org

The Back Page has a study written specifically for a small group of people (or an individual) to drill down deeper into a particular aspect of the week’s theme. Small groups can review memorable points of the week’s message and then work through the study concluding with a time of prayer.

Scripture & Meditation Guide - May 16-21

Helpful Hints:

- 1) Find a quiet place along with 15-20 minutes!
- 2) Focus on God for a few moments asking His Spirit to speak to your heart!
- 3) Listen to Him by reading a section of scripture then rereading it several times, dwelling on “words and phrases” which grab your heart’s attention.
Ask God, “What do You want me to hear?” “Why this word at this time?”
“How are You inviting me to respond?”
- 4) Pray everything that is on your heart and mind as you are ready!
Worship Him, Bless Him, Thank Him, Ask Him, Trust Him

Monday: John 8:31-32

Tuesday: John 14:25-27

Wednesday: John 14:15-18

Thursday: John 16:17-24

Friday: John 15:1-11

Saturday: Matthew 5:13-16