


Appendix 3: Using the Sermon Discussion Guide

Sermon Discussion Guides are made each week to help Life Groups all the more understand, encourage one another, and apply the preached Word. It contains questions to help your group members:

1. Understand the meaning of the passage/sermon
2. Mutually encourage each other through the passage/sermon
3. Apply the passage/sermon to their lives specifically

1. Start with the warm-up question
2. Read the passage
3. Ask the questions and cultivate conversation
4. Keep people on the subject without unnecessary tangents
5. The goal is gospel transformation, to be affected by God's Word, more aware of God's love and grace, and motivated to be do'ers of the Word.

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



SEVEN RIVERS
C H U R C H

A CULTURE OF GOSPEL: **JOY**

TRANSFORMATION • **JOY** • WELCOME • GENERATIONS • WORSHIP • COMMUNITY • MISSION

Warm-Up Question:
What are some of the things in life that bring you most joy?

READ: John 15:11; 16:16-24

I. THE ABSENCE OF JOY

- ▶ What are some things that our culture or the world offers us to find our ultimate joy in?
- ▶ What are you most personally tempted to find your ultimate joy in? Can you think of some things you have pursued that have not resulted in lasting joy?

II. THE SOURCE OF JOY

- ▶ What do you think about God being a God who is full of joy? Read Psalm 16:11 and 43:4. Do you naturally think of approaching God with fullness of joy?
- ▶ From John 15:11, what do you think it means for Jesus's joy to be "in you"?
- ▶ From Hebrews 12:2, what is a primary motivation for Jesus going to the cross? Discuss what made Jesus feel this way, how that makes you feel.

III. THE CHOICE OF JOY

- ▶ From John 16:22-24, Psalm 126:1-2 and Phil. 4:4. Why should joy and laughter be a natural overflow of a Christian (one who has experienced the grace of Christ and love of God)?
- ▶ Share some things that have most recently brought you joy and laughter?
- ▶ In John 16:24, Jesus encourages us to ask of him that our joy will be full. What are some things God might want you to ask for that would result in more joy in your life?

What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?

No soul that seriously and constantly desires joy will ever miss it. Those who seek find. To those who knock it is opened.
- C.S. Lewis

These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full...
Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.
- Jesus

Laughter and fun should always ring through the hallways of the church. The playfulness of secure children of all ages should mark the Father's household.
- Ray Cortese