

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." – John 16:33

Who or what brings you the greatest joy in your life?

1) This Joy is _____ in a time of sorrow. (vs. 20-21)

"Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow." – James 1:2-3 (2 Corinthians 12:9-10, 1 Peter 1:6-7)

2) This Joy is _____ to every attack. (vs. 22)

"¹³Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm." – Ephesians 6:10-18

3) This Joy is ______ through answered prayer. (vs. 23-24)

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." – 1 John 5:14

"In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me." – Jeremiah 29:12-13

4) This Joy is ______ in a reconciled relationship. (vs. 33)

"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation..." – 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

*True disciples of Jesus find redemptive and lasting joy in Jesus as they live out and share the gospel.

DIGGING DEEPER

(For use in personal/family devotions or with your care group)

Q1: Has God ever brought joy out of your sorrow? What happened?

Q2: How can Jesus guarantee that the disciples' joy cannot be stolen?

Q3: Read Ephesians 6:10-20. How can the promise of persecution and joy change your prayer life?

Q4: Read James 4:7-10. What are some ways Satan might attack your joy? How does coming "near to God" preserve your joy through Satan's attacks?

Q5: Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you an area of sin in your life that you need to humbly bring to Jesus in repentance. Pray with a repentant heart in Jesus name.

