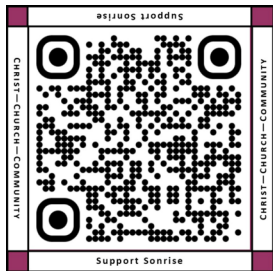


January thru April we will be covering the book of Isaiah. This will be on Sunday mornings and we will dig deeper on Wednesday evenings. You can decide how deep a look you want to take as we offer three levels to challenge each person on their current spiritual and biblical knowledge levels.

Books and materials will be available at the church starting on December 29th.



**You can help Support Sonrise Church**



**Biblical Joy is Lasting Joy**

- ◆ To Zacharias, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John. “You \_\_\_\_\_ **joy** and **gladness**, and many will **rejoice** at his birth. Luke 1.13b-14 NASB
- ◆ Biblical **JOY** is \_\_\_\_\_ **JOY**.
- ◆ “For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb. “And \_\_\_\_\_ turn many of the sons of Israel back **to the Lord** their God. Luke 1.15-16
- ◆ Biblical **JOY** is \_\_\_\_\_ **JOY**.



## Defining Joy

- ◆ Secular or worldly joy is often linked to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, such as success, wealth, pleasure, or health. It is often seen as an experience that brings happiness either momentarily or in a lingering way.
- ◆ Biblical or spiritual joy is choosing how to \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ with inner contentment and satisfaction, because we know that God will use these experiences to accomplish His work in and through our lives. (\*)
- ◆ Joy is an \_\_\_\_\_ in the world, while to the believer, joy is a \_\_\_\_\_ to many different kinds of circumstances.



## When JOY doesn't make sense

- ◆ Count (consider) it \_\_\_\_\_, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds... James 1.2
- ◆ How is it possible \_\_\_\_\_ when we experience life's "various trials"?^
- ◆ First, this is written for \_\_\_\_\_ believers. (John 3.3 & Romans 10.9)
- ◆ Second, this means that \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives will work for His purpose and pleasure. (Philippians 2.13 & Romans 8.28)



## DIGGING DEEPER

*This week we will be using out ADVENT daily devotional to guide us. Each day follow the readings and then answer the questions for deeper thought. This is a great opportunity for those who do not currently read and pray daily to start.*







## Final Joy

- ◆ And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will NO LONGER be any death; there will NO LONGER be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.” Revelations 21.3-4 NASB



## Being filled with JOY

- ◆ May the God of hope \_\_\_\_\_ you with all \_\_\_\_\_ and peace in believing so that by the power of the Holy Spirit, you may abound in hope. Romans 15.13
- ◆ Here, Joy is **not about** \_\_\_\_\_, but it is about God \_\_\_\_\_ into our lives no matter what is happening.
- ◆ This is the difference between **Christmas** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) joy, and **Christian** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) joy.



## The Holy Spirit and Joy

- ◆ \_\_\_\_\_ are not the source of our joy. \_\_\_\_\_ is the source of our joy as believers.
- ◆ The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit includes JOY. Galatians 5.22-23
- ◆ Galatians 5.25 “Since we \_\_\_\_\_ by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”
- ◆ The Holy Spirit (God) will naturally produce His fruit in our lives as we live for Jesus (God). This \_\_\_\_\_ JOY.

## Responding to life with JOY

- ◆ We can \_\_\_\_\_ to respond to life's trials with joy when we consider God's purpose for those times of suffering. (\*)
- ◆ Count (consider) it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1.2-4
- ◆ \_\_\_\_\_ (consider) means to make a conscious choice in the matter and how you will respond to it.
- ◆ \_\_\_\_\_ is remaining faithful and patient under pressure, maintaining one's faith and hope despite challenges.^



## Choosing Joy

- ◆ It is possible to have **joy to the** \_\_\_\_\_ even during life's most difficult times?
- ◆ 1 Peter 1.6 In this you \_\_\_\_\_, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,
- ◆ It is not about the problem, circumstances, or negative experience that life has thrown at you. It is about \_\_\_\_\_ God always is at work in all seasons of our lives. Joy comes from our decision to \_\_\_\_\_ God's Joy.

## Directions for Joy

- ◆ "Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you, and insult you, and scorn your name as evil, for the **sake of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Man.** Luke 6.22
- ◆ Remember it is JESUS they HATE and JESUS you love and SERVE.
- ◆ "Be glad in that day and \_\_\_\_\_ **for joy,** for behold, \_\_\_\_\_ is great in heaven. For in the same way their fathers used to treat the prophets. Luke 6.23
- ◆ Remember, Biblical **Joy** is \_\_\_\_\_ **Joy,** and it is \_\_\_\_\_ **Joy.**



## Practical Joy in a believer's life

- ◆ Paul and Silas have **freed a slave** girl from a spirit of divination and **are arrested** because her owner was without a source of income. They end up before the city chief magistrates who had them beaten and thrown in prison.
- ◆ But about midnight Paul and Silas were \_\_\_\_\_ and singing hymns of \_\_\_\_\_ to God, and the **prisoners were listening** to them; Acts 16.25
- ◆ In the end the jailer and his whole family \_\_\_\_\_ and are \_\_\_\_\_ because of the testimony of Paul and Silas and their **choice of joy** because of Jesus.
- ◆