



Our hope is that you were challenged by Sunday's message and would desire to take the study a little deeper. Whether for personal study, family study, or for a Home Group gathering, use this study to go deeper.

Open

January 7, 2018

Happy New Year! As 2018 begins, I can't help reflect back on 2017. Last year, on January 1st, the sermon series was *Vineyard*, and the emphasis was on abiding. What really has changed? Nothing! In 2018, we are still in need of that simple reminder. Jesus invites us into a forever-relationship with Him. Daily. By His grace. In His power. When the apostle John recorded Jesus' words in John 15 about abiding, he clarified with...*These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.* (John 15:11). In his first letter, John is still in search of complete joy for every believer. (1 John 1:4) It isn't complicated. There is no spirituality based on a secret knowledge. We live every part of our lives openly before God, including our sin (light v. darkness); we obey His commands; we love one another; we seek pure and undistracted fellowship with Him. This is the joy of true discipleship!

Main Point

A true disciple who abides in pure fellowship with God will experience joy made complete!

Read

1 John 1; John 15:1-11; Psalm 16:7-11

Discuss

- What are the experiences that bring joy into our lives, generally? Are there specific examples to share?
- What do people claim (true or not) are joy-killers in their life?
- What is the message you tell yourself or someone else to combat joylessness?
- Is a life of complete joy possible? Why doubt Jesus' or John's words?
- How do you connect, if at all, true discipleship and total joy? Are they really compatible?



Sermon Notes



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