

## Fellowship Group Homework & Discussion

### Getting Started

1. What positive events have happened in the past few months that has brought happiness to your life? Why did each of these events contribute to your happiness?
2. What impacted you the most from last Sunday's sermon?

### Going Deeper

3. Happiness is often event-driven (i.e. we are happy because of something that happens or because of present circumstances in our life). Why does this make happiness something that is fleeting (it comes and goes)?
4. Describe an event where question #3 was proven true in your life (an event or circumstance brought you happiness and then its absence diminished your happiness).
5. Why do each of the following not provide permanent happiness?
  - ◆ Marriage
  - ◆ Children
  - ◆ Career
  - ◆ Purchasing New Things
  - ◆ Vacations

6. For the Christian, joy can be a permanent part of your life. Unlike happiness, it does not have to come and go because it is not based upon circumstances but instead upon your secure relationship with God. Slowly and prayerfully immerse yourself in each of the following verses. What do you observe about joy (What causes it? When does it exist? What are the results of joy? etc.)?
  - ◆ 2 Corinthians 7:2-16 (esp. v. 4)
  - ◆ 2 Corinthians 8:1-15 (esp. v. 2)
  - ◆ Colossians 1:9-14 (esp. v. 11)
  - ◆ 1 Thessalonians 2-10 (esp. v. 6)
  - ◆ Hebrews 12:1-2
  - ◆ James 1:2-4
  - ◆ 1 Peter 1:3-9 (esp. v. 8)
7. What conclusions can you make about joy?
8. What can you do to live a more joy-filled life?

9. A key purpose of our Fellowship Groups is to provide accountability. To help with that, discuss the following questions:

- Have you been making it a regular priority to attend a Sunday morning worship service?
- Have you been faithful in making Fellowship Group attendance a top priority?
- Are you praying regularly for the members of your Fellowship Group?
- Are you caring for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those in your Fellowship Group?
- Are you taking steps to become more transparent with your Fellowship Group?
- Are you serving regularly in one area of ministry, preferably in your area of giftedness?
- Are you maintaining your Oikos list?
- Are you praying regularly for your Oikos list?
- What have you done this last week to reveal God to at least one member of your Oikos?



## Passionate Partnership

Part 12 — “Rejoice!”

Philippians 3:1

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