

GREATER JOY

[DISCUSSION QUESTIONS]

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December 12, 2021

Social media, comparing ourselves to others and bad customer service are offered as examples of things that may rob us of our joy. Open your time together discussing those things that rob you of your joy. Can you think of something this week that has robbed you of joy?

Read Philippians 4:1 and Matthew 7:24-25

Spend some time discussing those things that we put our hope in rather than in the truth of God's word and the hope we have in Jesus our "Rock". Why is it so dangerous to look to anything other than Christ as our source of joy? How do you turn your heart to God when it has drifted to one of these other things?

Read Philippians 4:2-5

How does knowing that your name is written in the book of life encourage you towards joy in daily living?

Read Philippians 4:6-7

Praying is much more productive than complaining. How does incorporating thankfulness into our daily prayers produce joy?

Read Philippians 4:8-9, Romans 12:2, Colossians 3:2 & 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

These verses encourage us to set our minds upon that which is right and good and to hold our thoughts captive to the obedience of Christ. How does this "right thinking" and spending time in the truth of God's word keep us from the barrage of lies coming from the world throughout the rest of the day?

Does praying for someone or a situation help you be patient instead of being annoyed? Can you give an example where you have put this discipline to the test?

Pray: Reflect on those things that bring you joy and commit a prayer of thankfulness to God for those things as a group. Ask God to help you to default to an attitude of thankfulness, especially when it would be tempting to complain.