



Life Group Guide

Sunday, December 11, 2016

Speaker: Roy Fruits

COMMUNITY

Sharing our hearts and lives with each other so we are known by others and know others as our brothers and sisters in Christ.

HOPE! How has the Lord Jesus strengthened your hope in HIM this past week?

PEACE! What causes you to lack peace most often? Why?

JOY! Share a joyful time/moment in your life. What made you joyful during that time?

DISCIPLESHIP

Becoming more like Jesus in our character; becoming skilled at doing life as He did. Helping others come to Jesus, follow Him and lead others to follow Jesus also.

Disciple-Maker's Character

Experiencing JOY in the midst of difficulties Read **James 1:1-5, Romans 5:1-11**

What do these two passages say about choosing JOY in the midst of trying times?

Why is choosing to be joyful in Jesus (not our circumstances) so important?

Disciple-Maker's Life Skills

Ability to apply Scripture with the Spirit's help to one's life to:

Overcome temptations **Luke 4:1-14**

Experience Jesus' joy / peace during a difficult situation **Jn. 16:33, Phil. 4:6-7**

Receive direction for making decisions **Pr. 3:5-6**

Accountability & Prayer

 Break into smaller groups (men & women)

Creating a safe environment to be vulnerable, honest & accountable to each other.

Share how you are doing with your responsibilities (personally, home, work).

Share one thing you would like the group to pray for you this week.

Pray for each other.

MISSIONAL LIVING

Encouraging each other to serve people inside and outside the walls of Rockpoint.

Living as Fishers of Men: Share who you are praying for where you live, work & play - that our Father would bring to personally trust Jesus to save and change their lives.

Rockpoint Missionary: Pray for your Rockpoint missionary.

Sermon Discussion *Use the following application questions from the sermon.*

As you listened to the message, what thought did our Father impress upon you as to how to apply this message to your life? Why?

Big Idea: Joy flows from knowing and walking with Jesus. He alone brought “good news of great joy for all people.” (Luke 2:10)

JOY SUCKERS—circumstances, people, possessions, suffering, trials, & myself
****Of these ‘joy suckers’, which one is the greatest ‘sucker’ in your life?***

JOY PRODUCERS

Joy flows from trusting Jesus as Savior and anticipating His return

“And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.” **Acts 13:48**

“Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.” **1 Peter 1:8, 9**

****Which of these verses is a joy producer for you? Why?***

Joy is experienced by walking with Jesus

“Yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.” **Habakkuk 3:18**

“You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” **Psalms 16:11**

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.” **Philippians 4:4**

“For you make him most blessed forever; you make him glad with the joy of your presence.” **Psalms 21:6**

****Share what you do to walk with Jesus that enables you to experience joy.***

Joy is found in a transcendent cause beyond ourselves Philippians 4:10 – 13

* Suffering—Hebrews 12:1, 2; Matthew 5:11-12; James 1:2 – 3

****Share how living for God’s kingdom has helped you experience joy in trials.***

Joy is found in giving and serving others

“In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” **Acts 20:35**

****Share about a time you were filled with joy as the result of serving someone.***

Joy is found in sharing Jesus, our Savior and Lord with others

*1 Corinthians 9:22-23; 1 Thessalonians 2:20; Philippians 1:18; Luke 15:7, 10

* If the shepherds shared, so can we!

****Why is it so exciting to share the Gospel of Jesus with people?***

****Why is it also so hard? *Share about a time you shared Jesus with someone.***