

## JOY MATTERS

what  
**REALLY**  
matters

**1 Peter 1:6-9, ESV**—<sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> 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, <sup>9</sup> obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

### Notes:

1.

2.

3.

# SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of May 10, 2020

1 Peter 1:6-9

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

## ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This weekend we were reminded that trials and struggles prove our faith. Why does our faith need to be proved from time to time?
- 2 Furthermore, we were reminded that our source of joy is Jesus. How can a person love and trust Jesus at all times, not just in times of trials?
- 3 How have trials and struggles in your past prepared you for more recent trials in your life? How has God used your trials and struggles to help others?

## DIGGING DEEPER

**A** *2 Corinthians 8:1-3, ESV – We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, <sup>2</sup> for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. <sup>3</sup> For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord.*

*1 Thessalonians 1:6-7, ESV – <sup>6</sup> And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup> so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.*

- 4 Looking at the passages above, what commonalities do we see when reading examples of people who have joy in the midst of affliction?

5 Our example is Jesus Christ. How did Jesus respond to trials and afflictions?

6 As believers, people are watching to see how we act during this time. How are you being an imitator of Jesus and an example to others? Are you bringing glory to God or yourself? If not, what needs to change for you to be the best example you can be?

**B** *1 Peter 4:12-19, ESV – <sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. <sup>15</sup> But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. <sup>16</sup> Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. <sup>17</sup> For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup> And “If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?” <sup>19</sup> Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.*

7 According to the passage above, why should believers rejoice during trials?

8 How does Peter “categorize” different types of suffering in this passage? How can a person know if their suffering is “in the name of Christ” or something else?

9 How does a person “entrust their souls to a faithful Creator”?

## TAKING IT HOME

This week, we were reminded that joy matters. In the midst of suffering and struggles, believers should find their joy in Jesus. But our joy is not just for ourselves, it is for those around us. How are you doing during this season? Are you loving and trusting God? How are you doing being an example to others? Share with your group or accountability partner and pray for a faith that is joy-filled in the midst of trials and struggles.

## PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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## FOR FURTHER STUDY

Acts 1:3  
Romans 5:1-5  
1 Peter 3:8-23