WHAT Our WORLD NEEDS NOW

Journey to JOY

While most of us understand that circumstantial happiness is inherently fleeting, we still have a tendency to chase happiness when what we really long for is joy. But lasting joy isn't something we can chase. In John 15, Jesus reveals where joy comes from and how we can experience it.

Discussion Questions:

1. Who is someone you would describe as joyful? What makes them joyful?
2. Would the people who know you best describe you as joyful? Why or why not?
3. Read **John 15:5**. Why do you think "remaining in Jesus" is the key to bearing fruit of the Spirit?
4. Read **John 15:8–12**. Jesus connects joy to obedience, which is not the first thing most of us think about when we think about joy. How do you think obedience leads to joy?
5. Immediately after explaining the connection between obeying his commands, remaining in him, and our joy being complete, Jesus issues his Great Commandment: "Love each other as I have loved you." Why would loving others like Jesus loves us lead to lasting joy?
6. In the message, Rich suggested that the inside-out approach to JOY (**J**esus, **O**thers, **Y**ou) changes the way we process our circumstances. It turns "I have to" into "I get to." With JOY:

    - Envy turns into contentment.
    - Greed turns into generosity.
    - Grumbling turns into gratitude.
    - Fear turns into faith.

    Have you seen this play out in real life? What's one example?

7. What is one new way you could begin loving others as Jesus has loved you? How could you see that act leading to joy?

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