



To Bring Us *Joy*

JOHN 16:16-33

I. We become _____ and even devastated when we trust in temporary things.

"A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." ... vv. 16-20a

ANALYZE THE THINGS YOU TRUST IN AND ASK: *Does it last?*

II. We gain _____ and especially joy when we trust in the work of Jesus.

"You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you." vv. 20b-22

CONSIDER HOW THE FINISHED WORK OF JESUS GIVES YOU *lasting joy*.

III. Life in Christ includes a new relationship with our good Father, bringing us _____ in a confusing world.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. ... for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ... Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." vv. 23-33

TAKE HEART, KNOWING THAT *Christ has overcome* THIS WORLD.



DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

1. What things in life tend to rob you of joy? In what sense do you allow it to happen?

"We lack joy when evil gains the upper hand and we worry it will become permanent. But what if we knew for certain each trial would become the means of receiving a great blessing? Suppose you lived in a world in which each lost job led to a better, higher-paying job; each illness led to increased health and a longer life; each financial setback eventually resulted in a higher salary. How would you regard each affliction? With dread or anticipation? With gloom or joy? How would your belief affect your ability to persevere? ... When we trust that we will ultimately prevail over suffering, we persevere with joy. The difference is faith."

CHARLES SWINDOLL

2. Read John 16:16-33. What insights about joy do you find in these verses?

3. In his sermon, the pastor asked us to analyze what we place our hope in (morality, finances, morality, politics, etc.), to discover if they are temporary. What things have you placed your hope in? How are they temporary?

4. How does the finished work of Jesus give you lasting joy, versus the temporary joy of everything else?

5. Would you say that you're you able to rest confidently in God's wisdom and love for you and say to Him, Lord, You know everything, so I'm not questioning You any longer? If not, what needs to change?

FOR THIS WEEK

Journaling in John 16:16-33

Last week's Scripture memorized

JOHN 16:8

"And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment."

JOURNAL John 16:16-33

Author J. C. Ryle writes:

We read that our Lord winds up all His discourse with these soothing words: These things have I spoken unto you, that you might have peace. The end and scope of His parting address, He would have us know, is to draw us nearer to Himself as the only fountain of comfort. He does not tell us that we shall have no trouble in the world. He holds out no promise of freedom from tribulation, while we are in the body. But He bids us rest in the thought that He has fought our battle and won a victory for us. Though tried, and troubled, and vexed with things here below, we shall not be destroyed. Be of good cheer, is His parting charge—Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. Let us lean back our souls on these comfortable words, and take courage. The storms of trial and persecution may sometimes beat heavily on us; but let them only drive us closer to Christ.

... Let prayer in the name of Jesus be a daily habit with us every morning and evening of our lives. Keeping up that habit, we shall find strength for duty, comfort in trouble, guidance in perplexity, hope in sickness, and support in death. Faithful is He that promised, Your joy shall be full; and He will keep His word, if we ask in prayer.

In verses 23-28, Jesus turn His focus to prayer, in essence saying, You can go to God, because He loves you. Why is prayer such a critical part of how we stay grounded in in the lasting joy of Jesus?

How do verses 16-33 comfort and encourage you? What do you want to write to the Lord in response?

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. That's a great spot to see what's coming up!

TURN IN OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES TODAY. Haven't yet brought back your Operation Christmas Child boxes? There's still time! Bring them to the Garden Room or Atrium today. We'll be collecting them until 5 p.m.

JOIN US FOR LUNCH WITH A MISSIONARY TODAY. If you'd like to learn more about our Global Missions Ministry and how you can support the persecuted church around the world, come for lunch in the Oak Room at 12:30 p.m. You can also email Danella at DanellaH@christchapelbc.org.

LET'S SERVE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON! There are a lot of ways you can share God's love and hope this holiday season. On Saturday, Dec. 4, hand out meals to families at Operation Zip Code, be a part of the Christmas Caroling Blitz at Beautiful Feet Ministries on Friday, Dec. 10, or help collect Operation Christmas Child boxes today and tomorrow at church. Head to www.ccbcfamily.org/holidayserve to see all the opportunities and make a plan with your home group, friends or family.

MAKE PLANS FOR LOVE'S PURE LIGHT, THE 2021 CHRISTMAS CANTATA. A beautiful service full of music and Scripture, the Christmas Cantata is an opportunity to begin the season with your church family! It's also a great opportunity to invite friends to Christ Chapel, so start making your plans now. If you aren't able to worship in person, services will stream live at the Internet Campus on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 5 and 7 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 5 at 9 and 11 a.m. Learn more at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

LADIES, INVITE A FRIEND TO WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS BRUNCH. We can't wait to celebrate with you on Saturday, Dec. 4! The morning will be full of the joys that come with celebrating the birth of Christ: friends, beautiful tables, great food and an encouraging Christmas message. Invite a friend or relative who needs to hear about God's love for them—this event is made for friends and family to enjoy with you. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the kiosk in the Great Room and at www.ccbcfamily.org/events today.

HEY PARENTS, REGISTER YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOLER FOR WINTER CAMP. Happening the weekend of Feb. 11-13, Winter Camp is a retreat at Sky Ranch for students in Grades 6-8. Along with hanging out with friends and having some outdoor adventures, students will be diving into the Bible to talk about relationships, integrity and sexuality. It's a fun weekend and safe place for honest conversations about finding our identity in Jesus. Head to www.ccbcfamily.org/events to learn more and register your student.

LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—just text CCBFCW to 833-422-7200 to get started.