

Contagious Joy Bible Study (3)

JOY = JESUS (Joy is another name for Jesus!)



Chapter Three – A Reason For Rejoicing -Study Handout

There are plenty of good reasons for celebrating. Opening night. Promotions. Windfalls. New babies. Graduation. Letters of acceptance. Birthdays. Generally speaking, the bigger the reason for rejoicing, the bigger the party we throw. While a card in the mail “was” satisfactory for Grandma’s 73rd, 76th and 79th birthdays, a bigger celebration was called for when her 80th rolled around. For Christians, we have the biggest reason ever for rejoicing. We rejoice because we have God’s love and the hope of eternal life with Him.

(Copied from our Contagious Study Book in Chapter Three)

Note from bfc- You might want to read the book of Job when you have a little extra time during this 12 week study, we have several verses coming from that book and it is going to be an extra “eye opener for us”. I read it again, and this time in the NLT Bible Version I received a lot more out of it because we happen to be referencing back to it so much.

1. What does Job 20:5 say about the good times of the godless?

2. What did Isaiah prophesy in Isaiah 9:2-3?

3. In Luke 1:14, what does God’s messenger say will bring joy and gladness to Zechariah?

4. In Luke 2:10, this most familiar of passages, what fulfillment of the promise of joy is heard proclaimed?

5. From the very beginning, who rejoiced in the fulfillment of God's promise?

6. How does the man in Matthew 13:44 react when he discovers this eternal gift?

7. While Jesus' coming was certainly a fulfillment of God's promise, few people understood that His death was needed to secure their joy. How did Jesus attempt to explain to His disciples in John 16:20?

8. After Jesus' resurrection, joy upon joy unfolded in the lives of His followers. Sometimes we're a little afraid of the joy we experience. In Matthew 28:8, what was mingled with the women's joy? What feelings overwhelmed the disciples in Luke 24:41? What does Luke 24:52 say that Jesus friends and followers experienced?

9. What does Acts 17:6 say about the early Christians?

"I will sing for joy in God, explode in praise from deep in my soul! He dressed me up in a suit of salvation, he outfitted me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom who puts on a tuxedo and bride a jeweled tiara - Isaiah 61:10

Message Version

Ponder and Pray: We don't just have joy, we have a very good reason for being joyful. It helps to remind ourselves of that. Spend some time this week pondering all the things over which you can rejoice; from the smallest of blessings to the greatest reason of all, God's amazing gift of salvation.

Trinkets to Treasure: Jesus is indeed our greatest reason for rejoicing. His birth was heralded by good tidings of great joy. Usually we spend the month of December pondering this, but we're not limited to that timeframe. Our trinket for the week is a star, like the Bethlehem star that first bore witness to the most joyful tidings ever heard. JESUS