



LEADER'S NOTES

Advent 2024

The Journey to Joy

John 15:11

This week we are discussing joy. The first three questions are designed to help you and your group wrestle with the concept that we are commanded to choose joy.

Question One allows storytelling.

Question Two deals with two amazing verses where Jesus describes His desire for us to have His joy.

Question Three deals with the command to rejoice, and a quote from John Ortberg discusses that we can become joyful people.

As you work through the first three questions, you may encounter some resistance to the idea that Christians should choose joy. If that is the case, feel free to draw from your own experience and use the scriptures provided.

The last two questions provide tangible ways to choose joy.

Question Four focuses on generosity and gratitude. I think at the very least this will provide your group an opportunity to think about how these two virtues directly impact their lives and potentially add joy.

Question Five focuses on forgiveness. I did not ask in the question for people to acknowledge if they needed to forgive someone. If your group is especially close, I would ask this question because it can be helpful to acknowledge out loud that you need to forgive. The question also deals with the idea of receiving joy as you experience forgiveness from God. I think this is an important point, and you might discuss with your group how they can more consistently meditate on the forgiveness that God has already given them.

I hope you enjoy leading this discussion. Merry Christmas and God bless you.