

Live Joy on Purpose!

Week of December 10, 2017

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.



Message Recap:

Read Luke 2:15-20

All a broken world can offer us is a broken life. If we continue to walk in the path of sin, then we will just find more ways to be broken. But we don't have to live that way! We can live joy by following the person of Jesus on the path he designed for us. We know this because Christmas is all about the birth of a livable joy in Jesus. You don't have to live sad, or empty. Instead you can embark on a great adventure with God. He is inviting you—and that invitation is as real as Jesus. The question is, do you believe Jesus? What's in you right now is a direct result of where you choose to live. You can accidentally live in a broken world, but living with Jesus takes intention. Will you live joy on purpose? Or are you content to just stay broken in the world?

Pray

God, thank you for sending Jesus so we can live a path of Joy! Thank you for the invitation to accept this joy, to live this joy...to be on the same path with Jesus. I accept your invitation. Help me learn how to be intentional as I follow this path. I don't want to be sad anymore. I just want your joy!

Getting Started

- Where is your favorite place that you've ever lived? Why?
- When live close to Jesus we are close to Joy; on a scale of 0-10 (10 being the closest) where are you right now in your closeness to Jesus?

Digging Deeper

1. What are examples of some of the brokenness that living in a broken world gives us? Why don't these things bring us joy?
2. Read Luke 2:10-20. How is our call the same or different than what the angels told the shepherds?
3. What was the shepherds' reaction to the announcement of the angels? What do you think your reaction would have been?
4. What is the great adventure Jesus has called you to? Are you checking into it like the shepherds did? Why or why not?
5. Explain this statement: "What's in you right now is the direct result of where you choose to live [accidentally in a broken world, or internally with Jesus]." Where are you right now?
6. Define "intentional." How can that definition apply to a believer's life? How does it apply to *your* life?
7. What are your dedicated daily acts of intentionally living with Jesus? What changes have you experienced because of that? How can you be more intentional about living your faith?

Living Jesus

Everyone who truly believes in Jesus follows him for the rest of their life. They experience a profound course change in how they live and think, in what they love, and who they serve. The proof of God's love is not an easy life. But it is a life of exciting adventure on the path of living joy. God invites you into this joy. It is an invitation that is unearned. But don't make the mistake of living it unaccepted.

Your Story

Have you ever accepted God's adventure and left what you were doing to see what God was doing? How are you being intentional about living close to Jesus? **Share your personal story with us [here](#) or choose Share Your Story under Forms at MySevernRun.com.**