



Week 2: The Foundation for Transformation

Joy was the original condition of creation and was shared in the relationship between God and his people (Adam and Eve). But when sin and brokenness entered the world, it disrupted our relationships and hijacked our joy. Since God formed us with joy, it's impossible to be transformed without it; and that transformation takes place in community.

Discussion Questions:

1. Share about a time someone's face lit up when they saw you. How does this feel?
2. When you picture God looking at you, what image comes to mind (angry, disappointed, pleased, etc.)? Now read the following scriptures: **Numbers 6:25; Psalm 31:16; 44:3; 67:1; 80:3, 7, 19; Daniel 9:17**. What did you feel (emotionally, physically, mentally) as you heard about God's face shining on you?
3. Share a time when you sensed God's face was shining on you. How did this feel? If you can't come up with one, spend some time asking the Holy Spirit to remind you through the week.
4. How would you rate your level of joy right now on a scale of 1-10 (1 being the lowest)? Why do you think that is? Shawn talked about "pseudo-joys" in the message. What kinds of things do you find yourself doing in order to get more joy (drinking, shopping, eating, etc.)? Has this helped or hindered your joy? Explain.
5. **Read Romans 12:15**. Have you experienced someone doing this with you? How did it affect your joy? How does this make it possible to experience joy even while suffering?
6. Share one thing you are grateful for about each person in the group.
7. For the next 30 days, spend 5 minutes per day dwelling in your memories from questions 1 & 3.
8. What was your biggest takeaway from the sermon this week?