



MESSAGE SERIES GUIDE

Timberlake Church

Pastor Ben Sigman
Rethinking Religion
What Happy People Know
October 21/22, 2017

FOR LEADER:

In preparation for group discussion, take a few minutes to read through the scriptures and discussion questions

MESSAGE RECAP:

Pastor Ben spoke this past weekend on *What Happy People Know*. He suggested that joy can be found in following God. Those who have joy have understood what following Jesus looks like beyond the law, and have seen the future hope for their lives.

The most recent message is available online at Timberlakechurch.com/messages for further study

SCRIPTURE TO READ:

Galatians 2:19, Galatians 15:9-11 (NIV)

ADDITIONAL:

Galatians 5:22-23, Philippians 4:8, Galatians 5:23, Matthew 16:15-16, Galatians 5:24, Galatians 5:26, Galatians 5:25 (NIV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. C.S Lewis said, "Joy is the serious business in heaven." What do you think C.S. Lewis is trying to say here?
2. Pastor Ben said that our joy can be connected to our spiritual growth. Read John 15:9-11 (NIV), and share with the group what evidence you see in your own life of joy being connected to spiritual growth.
3. What is the end game for your faith in Jesus?
4. Read Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV). What about faith in Jesus causes us to bare fruits, and why?
5. Do you see yourself as more of a negative person or a positive person, and why?
6. Jesus flipped the script on the religious officials in his day for their rituals because they often focused on the negative. This series on Rethinking Religion has often led us to see how Jesus is different than other religions. How is a focus on joy found in following Jesus different than how other religions seek to produce joy in a person's life?
7. How can boundaries be life giving, and how can they be life sucking?
8. Read Galatians 5:26 (NIV). How difficult is this, and why?
9. How do we often blame the world or other people for our own issues?
10. How do we often conjure up bitterness towards another person? Do you keep score? Do you only give forgiveness once the other person has apologized? Do you feel like you deserve something?
11. How do we often take out what we feel on other people?
12. Hope is not found in the past, it is found in the future. What do you need to change about yourself today to find joy in following Jesus?