

Grace Downtown CG Discussion Guide

January 28-31, 2019

Topic: Jesus' Joy

Series: He Became Like Us

Luke 10: 21-24, John 15:9-11



Announcements:

Diane Langberg: Dr. Diane Langberg is globally recognized for her work with trauma victims. She will teach on Abuse and Healing in the Church. Registration is \$20 per person and will be open through Feb 12 or until sold out. You must register in advance online; there will be no walk-up registration option. **Fri Feb 15 & Sat Feb 16** at Grace Mosaic.

Nominations: One of the responsibilities and privileges of church membership is praying for potential leaders and nominating them to our church's Session and Diaconate. Please think and pray about those you know in our community who may be called to serve. You must be a member to nominate. See the Jan 8 email to members for details. Deadline: **Fri Feb 1**

Kingdom prayer: The prayer team hosts a **monthly** prayer in the Fellowship Hall the first Sunday of each month at 4pm. The next one will be **Sun Feb 3**.

Preparing for Marriage: Explore how the gospel provides the foundation for marriage and the power to thrive in marriage. Friday night open to everyone, no registration required. Saturday for couples who are engaged or pursuing engagement; must register. This seminar is required if a Grace DC pastor is officiating your wedding. **Fri March 8**, 7-9:30 pm. **Sat March 9**, 9 am- 4 pm . Church office. Deadline to register online: March 3.

Read and Discuss:

Read Luke 10: 21-24, John 15:9-11 aloud together.

Introduction:

In this current sermon series we are looking at the humanity of Jesus. Many of us think often of Jesus' divinity. (We know he is the Son of God, the Second Person of the Trinity, who died and was resurrected on our behalf.) But sometimes we don't reflect very deeply about Jesus' humanity.

When you think about this person Jesus who walked around Galilee 2,000 years ago, do you easily think of him as a human being? Do you think of him as "just like you" in many ways? Do you have a hard time thinking of Jesus as having real emotions (or is he 'above all that' in that he was divine)?

Discussion Questions:

Luke 10: 21-24

1. We're told Jesus spoke these words while "rejoicing in the Holy Spirit." As you read these words and "see" Jesus in your mind's eye, picture his joy as he said these sentences.
2. What is the reason for Jesus' joy?
3. Can you picture Jesus smiling, happy, with a twinkle in his eye as he spoke?

John 15:9-11

1. Read this passage aloud and try to "see" Jesus as he says these words.
2. What expression would be on Jesus' face as he tells you of his LOVE for you and his JOY?
3. Do you think Jesus would have spoken these words to his disciples with any EMOTION in his voice?

Application:

1. Try to imagine yourself as one of the disciples sitting together with Jesus around a campfire one evening, with Jesus smiling and laughing, having just told a funny joke.
2. Can you imagine tears running down his face because he was laughing so hard?
3. Would it be FUN to hang out with Jesus?
4. Why would a more realistic perception of Jesus' humanity--in this case, Jesus' joy--be helpful for us in our seeking to follow him as his disciple?
5. What is deficient in our discipleship when we picture Jesus as ONLY divine and "not really" human?

Prayer:

=

The Grace Downtown Prayer Team creates opportunities for our community to learn more about prayer together for our church family, our city, and our world. Throughout the coming week, the Prayer Team is asking our church community to...

...for the Lord Christ to intercede for us in the current political climate. Pray that our leaders may deliberate calmly and wisely, moving toward unity and upholding what is just.

...that those in our congregation and beyond whose means of livelihood and wellness have been severely affected by the government shutdown will find God's present help.

...for our church, our ministers, officers, and staff to spend more time in prayer this year.