



## JOY

### SPOTLIGHT

**Supply Drive:** We have a supply drive this Friday, June 26 9:00am - 5:00pm to collect much needed supplies for neighborhoods that have been impacted by recent events in both Minneapolis and St. Paul. More info on news and events – help for our cities.

**For Kids:** Game Changers is back & the competition is heating up! Suit up & cheer on your team as we learn together that when a good friend puts others first, it can be a Game Changer!

Go to GraceKids Online at <https://extendgrace.org/kids-online/>

### GET TALKING

How did you love another last week for God's glory?

What are the best unexpected gifts or experiences you have ever received?

### MESSAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Galatians 5:22-23, Philippians 1:1-18

Know the Word; Be filled with the Spirit; Bear the fruit

- Know the Word – know who Jesus is
- Be filled with the Spirit – be in relationship with Jesus
- Bear the Fruit – joy becomes the outcome of our relationship with Jesus

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (Choose 2 or 3)

1. Let's review what we have learned about the Fruit of the Spirit so far in our series:
  - a. What is the significance of 'fruit' being singular rather than plural?
  - b. Why is it important to distinguish between fruit being the evidence of our relationship with Jesus, rather than a checklist of good behaviors that we should set out to accomplish?
  - c. What kind of love is the first Fruit of the Spirit?
2. In Galatians 5:22 the second fruit listed is joy. The word joy is translated from the Greek word chara. Chara is related to charis meaning grace or gift and charos meaning rejoice or express joy. Do an internet search on the word joy.
  - a. How would you define the word joy?
  - b. How does it differ from happiness?
3. Read Philippians 1:12-15,18.
  - a. Where did Paul keep his focus?
  - b. In what ways does the focus of his attention motivate his behavior?
  - c. What can we learn from this?
  - d. How might our attitudes and circumstance be different as a result?

(continued)



4. Paul knew that no matter where he was that God was in control. When Paul looked around at his situation he knew he could see God's hand. In the midst of stressful and chaotic situations Paul has joy because he knows who Jesus is.
  - a. What ways have you seen God's hand at work in your life?
  - b. What helped you to recognize it as God at work?
5. Read Philippians 4:11-13.
  - a. What do you think is the key to experiencing joy despite your circumstances?
  - b. What are habits, or rhythms, that can help cultivate our relationship with Jesus and allow us to be more connected to the leading of the Holy Spirit?
  - c. Go to <https://extendgrace.org/three-relationships/> and check out the rhythms of HEAR and DELIGHT under the God relationship to learn more. What is one adjustment you can make this week to improve your relationship with the Lord?

## **BIG IDEA**

Know the Word, be filled with the Spirit, bear the fruit.

## **NEXT STEPS**

What ways can you share the joy you find in having a relationship with Jesus? As you go through your week, be intentional about recognizing the Fruit of the Spirit in your own life and in the life of others. Think about what you notice in yourself and others. What is God showing you about what bringing Him glory and honor in your daily life?

## **PRAYER**

To the God of grace and love, thank you for your presence in our lives. You are always pursuing us, walking beside us, wanting us to engage in relationship with you. Forgive us for allowing the circumstances of this world to distract us and keep us from the joy we have in You and knowing you are in control. Please help us to know you more, hear you better, and follow the leading of the Spirit you have sent to dwell in us who believe. May we share the unshakable joy that results in being in relationship with you so others will want the same. In Jesus powerful name we pray, amen.