

# KINGDOM CHARACTER

*Becoming Like Jesus*

## Kingdom Character: JOY (Week 3)

Preacher: **Stephen Scott**

### Worship:

Start by listening to “Remembrance” or “Gratitude.”

As the song plays, reflect on what it means to have joy that goes beyond circumstances.

Ask:

- What’s trying to steal my joy right now?
- What truth do I need to hold onto?

### Check-in:

This past Sunday, we looked at the second fruit of the Spirit - Joy.

What stood out to you from the message?

Was there something that felt especially personal or challenging?

### Synopsis of message:

This week we were reminded that joy is not the same as happiness.

Happiness is based on what's happening around us. But joy is rooted in Christ and formed in us by the Holy Spirit.

Stephen shared that joy is a fruit that God wants to grow in us, especially in hard times.

Joy gives us strength. It sustains us when life is difficult.

And it becomes a powerful witness to those around us.

We also heard that joy is rooted in grace. It grows as we stay close to Jesus and remember our salvation.

Joy isn’t forced. It’s not fake positivity. It’s formed by the Spirit as we stay connected to God.

### Scripture Focus:

- Galatians 5:22 - 23
- Philippians 4:4
- Nehemiah 8:10
- Psalm 51:12
- John 15:11
- Philippians 4:11 - 13

### Discussion Questions (select from the following):

#### 1. Where Is Your Joy Rooted?

Read John 15:11 and Psalm 51:12

- What stood out to you in these verses?
- What does it mean to have joy rooted in our salvation?
- Has there ever been a time you prayed, “Restore to me the joy of your salvation”?

#### 2. Joy in Hard Seasons

Read Nehemiah 8:10 and Philippians 4:4

- What does it look like to have joy even when things are difficult?
- Have you ever experienced strength that came from joy in a tough season?
- What’s one situation right now where you need joy to carry you?

#### 3. Joy That Witnesses

Read Philippians 1:4 and 2 Corinthians 6:10

- Stephen said that joy can be a powerful witness to others.
- How do you think joy shows up in your life and relationships?
- Who in your life might be watching how you handle pressure or pain?



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## **Prayer Moment:**

Start by asking:

“Holy Spirit, what are You showing me about joy in my life?”

Then pray together:

- For strength for those in difficult seasons
- For joy that is rooted in grace, not circumstances
- That our joy would be a witness to the people around us
- For hearts that choose to remain close to Jesus

## **Next Step:**

Write down this verse somewhere visible this week:

**“The joy of the Lord is your strength.” - Nehemiah 8:10**

Every time you feel worn out, say this simple prayer:

“God, restore to me the joy of Your salvation.”