

**Luke 10:21-24**

- ✓ We started last time looking at some hidden things of God, not the least of which is God's Joy.
  - ✓ We just don't see God as joyful because we assume He's upset because of the Devil and his demons, because of sinners, because of the way His name is dishonored and misrepresented, and His word is ignored.
  - ✓ These things are upsetting for us, so, He at least has to be as upset as we are, right?
  - ✓ When we talk about the attributes of God, Joy is not usually one of them, that is a mistake.
  - ✓ There are so many indications to the contrary: **Zephaniah 3:17; Jeremiah 32:4; Psalms 16:11; Lk. 15:10; Galatians 5:22.**
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**1. Joy instructions from Jesus.**

- ✓ Don't tie your joy to anything temporary. **Verses 17; 20;** They had been very successful, healed, delivered, seen conversions, but Jesus gives them a mild corrective here, "Don't limit your joy to that."
  - ✓ Why would He say that?, because its temporary. Don't tie your joy to anything that goes on here, even the good stuff, tie your Joy to what's coming.
  - ✓ Success in life and in ministry ebbs and flows, it's not the visible that that should be the thermostat on our Joy, it is the hidden, the invisible.
  - ✓ **Philippians 2:17-18; 4:4;** No matter the circumstances, God is in control, and it will go His way.
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**2. Tie your joy to God's sovereignty; Verse 21;** "It's going just like God planned it to go."

- ✓ It looked like Jesus was failing: He rejected, unrecognized, plotted against, crucified.
  - ✓ Even when things look super bad, God's plans are right on schedule.
  - ✓ Jesus is overcome with joy while everything on the surface seems to be going terrible.
  - ✓ Don't look at the way things look, look at the way things are!
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**3. Tie your joy to the infinite God's ability to make things so simple.**

- ✓ How did God hide things from the wise and accomplished?, by putting them in plain sight!
  - ✓ God hid His truth right where the arrogant wouldn't look, in plain sight—where a child can see it.
  - ✓ Right Where a child could see it, but where those who think they can see without God's help would never look!
  - ✓ **1 Corinthians 1:20-21;** Through wisdom we can't know God, so don't try that; through religion we can't know God, so, don't try that either.
  - ✓ God's truth and God's joy is hidden but it's not! A child can find it.
  - ✓ Rejoice in that your names are written in book of life! we all have the same access to the same joy.
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**4. Tie your joy to the Great grace of God, Verse 22.** We rejoice that He's made it plain to us who humble ourselves.

- ✓ We rejoice that He's revealed Himself at all, He just as easily could have left us all in the dark!
- ✓ What do sinners deserve? Blinded by our own choices, we don't deserve to be brought into the light.
- ✓ Again, our joy is based on who God is and not on anything that we are or can do.
- ✓ God is the only one in the universe who does what He wants to. He could have commanded legions of angels to rescue Him from the cross, but He didn't because He didn't want to.
- ✓ He decided to save us, forgive us, reveal Himself to us, bring us to Himself, give us life forever with Him, all because He wanted to.

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