

# DIRECTION-LESS: The Completion

June 6, 2021 John 16:20-24

## OPENING QUESTION

Can you recall a time when there was sorrow in your life? Did you feel like you lost your joy during that time? Did you find it again?

## YOUR SORROW WILL TURN INTO JOY - John 16:20-24

<sup>20</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy.

<sup>21</sup> When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. <sup>22</sup> So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. <sup>23</sup> In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. <sup>24</sup> Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full

Jesus is referring to the grief of the disciples while Jesus was dead, while the 'world' was rejoicing at his death. The clause *your grief will turn to joy* refers to the transformation of the disciples' attitudes when they see the resurrected Jesus again

## OUR PERSPECTIVES - Hebrews 12:1-2

- Jesus is the author and perfecter of our faith, and endured the cross for the joy that was set before Him.
- Now the joy is set before you, so you need to look further for your Joy in Jesus!
- Joy is already yours, so don't covet someone else's calling, gift, vacation, or life; JOY is found in CHRIST
- Comparison is the thief of joy, or perhaps the death of joy.
- Quit wanting what isn't yours and focus on what is yours: Jesus!

What does *sorrow* mean to you? What does *joy* look like? Can joy give what sorrow takes away? What does it mean to say that comparison is the thief (or death) of joy?

## OUR PRIORITIES - John 16:23-24

- Your priority should be to ask God for the things you need in Jesus' name, and He will give it to you.
- Your joy is not in just the things you enjoy, because they cannot produce permanent joy.
- Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full, and no one can steal your joy!
- Joy is not a feeling, it's a gift!

What have you asked God for? What have you *not* asked God for that you know you *should* ask Him for? Do you believe God will give you the desires of your heart and make your joy full rather than the cheap imitation of joy the world gives us?

# DIRECTION<sup>+</sup>-LESS?

## CLOSING QUESTIONS

### Hear

What are some things that stood out to you in this week's sermon and Scriptures?

### Obey

Are you awakened and aware to the joy He has set before us? Enduring the cross and denying yourself to discover and follow Him? Enduring the suffering of this world and what He has called us to do? Are you pursuing joy and the story He has written for your lives? Does that sound like a daunting task? Jesus can make your joy full. What truths can be applied to your life from this passage this week?

### Pray

Pray that God will show you how He can make your joy full. How do the passages in John 16 and Hebrews 12 provide an example for you to follow?