



November 23 – Feel Joy!

When you come to worship – how do you feel? What would you say is the primary feeling you have when you think about worshiping God? Is it by any chance – joy? Pure, unadulterated joy? Most of us probably say – I come with a heart of gratitude, or a sense of God's majesty. Perhaps you say, I come feeling like I'm just glad I got here, or I'm irritated. Did you know the heart you bring to worship hugely impacts your ability to give thanks and praise? Join us this weekend as we follow Psalms' advice to feel great abiding JOY! Come worship with spirit, truth and energy this weekend – allowing the JOY that is yours to spill over!

Scripture:

Psalm 100

Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth! ²Worship the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing with joy. ³Acknowledge that the Lord is God! He made us, and we are his. We are his people, the sheep of his pasture. ⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name. ⁵For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation.

Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹Then I looked again, and I heard the voices of thousands and millions of angels around the throne and of the living beings and the elders. ¹²And they sang in a mighty chorus: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered—to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.” ¹³And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They sang: “Blessing and honor and glory and power belong to the one sitting on the throne and to the Lamb forever and ever.” ¹⁴And the four living beings said, “Amen!” And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped the Lamb.

Questions:

- What kind of heart do you bring to worship? A heart that is ready to find all the things that are wrong? Or a heart that is distracted? Do you come with a heart open to what the Lord has to say?
- Why do you think so many people are afraid to let their emotions show when they worship?
- What do you think about the idea that worship is not as much for us as it is a chance for us to honor and praise God? Agree? Disagree? Take stock of what you look for in worship and what your answer here has been. They just may be different!

Reading for the Week:

Monday: Psalm 150:1-6

Tuesday: 1 Corinthians 14:15

Wednesday: Hebrews 13:15

Thursday: Psalm 34:3

Friday: Nehemiah 8:10