



Misquoted God Wants You to be Happy

If you think that Jesus taught that God just wants you to be happy, think again. Following our hearts and chasing after happiness doesn't equal wise decision-making or good theology. TRUE happiness is only found in following and chasing one thing: Jesus.

Scripture:

We can make our own plans, but the LORD gives the right answer. People may be pure in their own eyes, but the LORD examines their motives. There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death.

Proverbs 16:1,2,25

Oh, the joys of those who do not
follow the advice of the wicked,
or stand around with sinners,
or join in with mockers.

² But they delight in the law of the Lord,
meditating on it day and night.

³ They are like trees planted along the riverbank,
bearing fruit each season.

Their leaves never wither,
and they prosper in all they do.

Psalms 1:1-3

Ice Breaker and Intro Question:

1. What is your favorite quote? Who said it? (Are you sure about that?)
2. What resonated with you from Sunday's service?

Discussion Questions

3. Have you ever felt like your words have been misused? How did this experience make you feel?
4. Share briefly about the misquoted phrase, "God just wants me to be happy." How have you used it or seen it used?
5. Read Proverbs 16:1-2,25 together as a group. How would you explain or paraphrase the truth of this proverb?
6. Read Psalm 1:1-3 quietly by yourself. Spend a few minutes reflecting on how these verses. How does this scripture comfort or challenge you?
7. What is the danger in chasing happiness?
8. Eddie shared the powerful reminders that happiness never comes through comparison and that gratitude beats comparison every time. How have you experienced that?
9. Close your group by taking a moment to thank God for as many things as you can. (You can write them on paper or say them out loud – but find a way to share them with one another.) Have as many people as are willing say a prayer of gratitude to God.

Additional Resources:

- Want to find some more practical ideas for practicing gratitude? Check out our resource here: https://www.wschurch.org/content/makeitawesome/MakeltAwesome_GratitudeWeb.pdf.
- Need help navigating your group session? Reach out to MichaelS@wschurch.org with questions and to get tips for how to stay connected as a group – online or in person.

Notes: