

Family Table Talk Guide
#2 Embracing Joy Even in Sorrow
March 11, 2018

This week we will welcome any newcomers to our assembly by placing them at tables. If some of your group members are not here, let us know and we can put new families with you. As always, encourage everyone at your table to participate in the discussion and enjoy your time together tonight!

Selected Readings: Philippians 4:4; James 1:2-4; Jeremiah 31:13

Question #1 (Icebreaker): What's everybody's favorite dessert?

Question #2: Paul wrote Philippians while in prison for preaching the gospel yet says to "Rejoice in the Lord ALWAYS... and again I say REJOICE." (emphasis mine). How could Paul have such joy in the midst of such difficult circumstances?

Question #3: What other circumstances in Paul's life do you suppose might have threatened to steal his joy? How did he rise above them and choose joy?

Question #4: What sorts of things threaten to steal your joy as a family? What do you or could you do to choose joy when you don't feel "joyful"?

Read and Respond: Read James 1:2-4.

Discuss: How is it possible to have joy in the midst of difficult circumstances or even times of great sorrow?

What can we learn from hard times or sorrowful times that could increase the joy we feel in other times?

Question #5: When do you have the most joy as a family? What do you enjoy doing together?

Question #6: What is one thing we can do together as a family this month to choose joy?

Pray: Take prayer requests at your table, pray for our families going through times of sorrow right now and close by reading Jeremiah 31:13 (from the screen) together.