

I. We rejoice in *_hope_*

A. *_Something_* has been *_done_* for us Eph 2:5b-7

B. He's *_changed_* our *_future_*
Col 1:27;
I Cor 15:43, 58;
Luke 10:20b

II. We rejoice in our *_sufferings_*

A. Because we *_know_* what they
produce
Heb 5:8;
I Pet 1:6-7;
James 1:2-4;
Heb 12:6-7, 10-11

B. Because we *_know_* He's
saving us
Rom 1:18-28;
Eph 5:1-6;
Gal 6:7

III. We rejoice in *_God_*

A. Because we're *_reconciled_*
Col 1:21-22;
II Cor 5:20

B. He *_is_* *_hope_*
Luke 10:21;
Ps 16:11; 21:6;
I Thess 1:6;
Rom 15:13

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

Care Group Questions

“Party Principles”
Text: Rom 5:1-11

Dave Bechtel

March 18, 2007

1. Do you have anything to celebrate about concerning Sharefest (an invitation, someone you met, a job well done, a story you heard, etc.)?
2. Verses 1 and 2 summarize Romans chapters 1-4. In your own words, what has been done for us, why was that necessary, who did it, what does it mean?
3. In verse two, is what has happened in the past the reason we rejoice? If not, what is the reason given? (If necessary, put it in easy to understand language.)
4. Agree/disagree: Rejoicing is never only about the past, it always includes the hoped-for future. (i.e. there is no rejoicing without hope). If you agree, why would that be true?
5. It's not natural to rejoice in our sufferings, but we do because we know something. According to these verses, what do we know?
6. What is the sequence of qualities that suffering can produce? Can you define each of those qualities? Can you give an illustration that helps picture that process?
7. Agree/disagree: Some of the qualities that God desires in us do not come with conversion but can only come through suffering.
8. Some people who suffer only get bitter, angry, grumbly, etc. Why don't the people in these verses?
9. Paul points out that our suffering, with the life of Christ in us, saves us from “God's wrath.” What is that? Why is that a good thing to be saved from? How could a believer not be saved from that?
10. What, in our verses, is the third kind of rejoicing? How does that connect with the idea that all rejoicing has hope involved?
11. Are you in any kind of suffering right now? (Care to share?)
12. How is your “rejoicing life” right now?

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