



THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Winning the souls of grieving disciples P 2

Session Number: 55 | Week: 9 | Day: 1

Bible Passage

John 16:16-33

Introduction

In this session, John 16: 16-33, Jesus talked to his troubled disciples how their grief would turn into joy. Going through the process of grief is important to turning grief into joy only through the work of God and his people. Jesus called it a little while season before converting grief into joy. Jesus did not hide his disciples that in the world they would encounter trouble, but he also promised them the peace of the lord to shield them

Session Objectives

By the end of this session the learner will have:

- Understood the principles of encouragement of the promise of turning grief into joy
- Appreciated the peace of the lord in a world full of trouble.

Session Outline

- Turning Sadness into joy
- A little while
- You will have trouble in the world

Connecting

- Study together in a group of two or more people.
- Begin with a prayer, asking God to bless your understanding.
- Read the passage at least twice using different Bible versions, then retell the story among your group members.
- Share the challenges and blessings from the previous day.

Comprehending

- What is grief? When should the grief cycle begin for the persecuted believers? John 16: 5-6. What is peace, how do we overcome the world?
- Read John 16: 16-20. What did Jesus mean by the phrase “a little while. You will not see me, and in a little while you will see me...”
- Read John 16: 16-33. Write down three truths revealed how disciples’ sadness will be turned into Joy, why is the misunderstanding of truth the main cause of sadness?

Committing

- Engage with the Bible—read, study, memorize, meditate, pray, listen, and live it out.
- List three lessons you learnt as an agent of change that you would practice and teach others about
- Take time and worship Jesus with the attributes revealed about Christ now.
- Engage SPACEPETS model, to do something after the session. Look for:
 - **Sin** to confess
 - **Promise** to claim
 - **Attitude** to change
 - **Command** to keep
 - **Error** to change
 - **Prayer** to make
 - **Example** to copy
 - **Truth** to obey and
 - **Something** praiseworthy

Communicating

- Identify one person and share the lessons you learnt in this session?
- Visit or call a new believer and Pray with them over the issues they are struggling with. Issue of attending the church.
- Form another group and repeat this study.

Audio Summary

John 16:16-33

- **Scripture Focus:** John 16:16-33—Disciples’ grief turning into joy.
- **Context:**
 - Jesus spoke to troubled disciples about the Holy Spirit’s role: reminding them of His teachings, comforting, and teaching all truth.
 - Disciples struggled to understand; Jesus promised their grief would turn to joy.
- **Cycle of Grief:**
 - Grief follows loss (e.g., money, friends, opportunities, health); it’s natural.
 - Stages:
 - Denial: Refusing to accept the loss (e.g., disciples denying Jesus’ predictions of hatred).
 - Anger: Frustration over the reality of loss.
 - Bargaining: Attempting to negotiate the loss away.
 - Depression: Feeling at the bottom, hopeless, potentially leading to despair or upward to acceptance.
 - Acceptance: Where grief can turn to joy.
 - Jesus, per Hebrews 12, endured the cross for the joy ahead, not the pain itself.
- **Jesus’ Teaching on Grief Turning to Joy:**
 - **Truth in Advance:** Told disciples beforehand (e.g., persecution, death) so they’d have peace, preparing them to process grief early.
 - **Peace Amid Trouble:** Assured peace in Him despite worldly trouble, because He overcame the world (system opposing God).
 - World hates God, not believers personally; opposition targets their faith.
 - Peace is hope beyond turmoil, not absence of problems, rooted in Jesus’ victory.
 - **Temporary Nature:** “A little while”—grief is seasonal, not permanent.
 - Disciples wouldn’t see Him (cross), then would (resurrection); grief would turn to complete joy.
 - Example: Disciples wept, hid, and deserted during His death, but this was temporary.
- **Encouragement:**
 - Grief from faith in Jesus is a “little while”; seasons change (Ecclesiastes 3).
 - All works together for good (Romans 8:28), not that all is good, but difficulties shape faith.
 - God’s peace—beyond worldly peace—sustains through the valley, turning grief to joy.