

The Invitation

Celebration (Week 7)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Ideas

Celebration elevates our soul in spite of our circumstances.

Key Scriptures

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord: "I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; he has hurled both horse and rider into the sea. Exodus 15:1

So David and all the people of Israel brought up the Ark of the Lord with shouts of joy and the blowing of rams' horns. 2 Samuel 6:15

When he reached the place where the road started down the Mount of Olives, all of his followers began to shout and sing as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen. Luke 19:37

If we tie celebration to our circumstances we never will.

As a people of celebration:

1. **We can choose to celebrate God for who He is.**

For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation. Psalms 100:5

2. **We can choose to celebrate God for what He has done.**

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Psalms 126:3

3. **We can choose to celebrate God for what we believe he will do yet.**

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever. Revelation 21:4

Start talking.

- What are examples of allowing circumstances to dictate celebrations?
- Why is that so easy to do?
- What is a drawback to living that way?

Start thinking.

- Read the Key Scriptures. What are the common themes?
- Does today's church reflect the idea that we are meant to be a people of celebration? Explain.

Start sharing.

- Read Psalms 100:5. How have you experienced this? Describe a time when this has been difficult to believe.
- Read Psalms 126:3. What great thing has God done for you? What great thing(s) has he done in the lives of those you care for?
- Read Revelation 21:4. What are you believing God will do in your life, in the life of others?

Start doing.

- Choose one or all three of the "celebration verses" to memorize this week. Choose to turn your heart and mind to that verse and choose to begin each day with a posture of celebration.

Closing prayer.

Jesus, I love you! You are good and worthy of worship. I praise you for who you always are, for the amazing things you continue to do, and for all I can choose to trust you will do yet. Help me to choose an attitude of celebration in spite of my circumstances. Amen.