

# Parenting with PURPOSE

## MISSION DISCOVERY OF GRACE



### Unit 4.2: Discovery of Joy

We discover joy when we trust God's plans, seek forgiveness and obey His commands.

**Memory Verse:** Psalm 16:11

#### Lesson Objectives:

- WHEN WE DISCOVER GOD'S GRACE, WE ALSO DISCOVER JOY. Recognize that joy begins with a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
- WE DISCOVER JOY WHEN WE TRUST GOD IN OUR DAILY NEEDS. Understand that their joy continues to increase as they grow in their trust and obedience to God and His Word.
- WE DISCOVER JOY WHEN WE SEEK FORGIVENESS FROM SIN. Examine their personal level of joy.
- WE DISCOVER JOY WHEN WE FOLLOW HIS COMMANDS. Determine to choose joy, no matter what their circumstances might be.



#### Talk about it:

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Graders

- How did the lame man show his joy? How do you show joy in your life?
- When is it difficult for you to have joy? When is it easy to be joyful?
- Read Philippians 4:4. When should we have joy? What does joy look like?

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Graders

- What does joy look like in the eyes of the world? How is a believer's joy different?
- What does it mean to choose joy? What does joy look like?
- Can you think of a person who needs joy? What can you say to encourage them?

#### Encouragement for you:

God calls us to a life filled with joy. Are you able to rejoice always? Is your joy dependent on circumstances and people? Joy is not a plastered smile or constant laughing. Joy is the banner you wave when God is sitting on the throne as King of your life. It is a dependence on God and His hope that brings His peace. Your attitude and countenance can have an incredible impact on others. Does your life radiate joy? Take a few minutes to pray and ask God to fill you with joy and stay focused on Him despite your circumstances.

T&T Announcements

## Family Activity: Joyous Occasions

What You'll Need:

Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to think of a time when they were full of joy (e.g., a birthday, family celebration, vacation, the birth of a sibling). Encourage volunteers to share their memories.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- What about that memory made you happy?
- How do you feel when you think about that memory now?
- Do you still feel that same happiness today that you felt then? Why or why not?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We can remember moments in our lives that brought us happiness.
- Feelings of happiness can come and go because happiness is based on what is going on in our lives.
- Joy is different from happiness that is based on our lives. God wants us to discover true joy that comes from a relationship with Him.
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we have the promise of abundant life.
- When we study God's Word and draw close to Him, we can be full of joy, even when tough things are going on in our lives.
- When we grow in our relationship with God, we will experience God's blessings of peace and contentment and hope.
- We also have the hope that we get to spend eternity with God in heaven (John 3:16).

STEP 4: Pray, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering joy.