



Songs of Summer

“A Song of Joy”

July 3, 2022 // Cathy Burkholder, Executive Pastor

“Joy is the settled assurance that God is in control of all the details of your life, the quiet confidence that ultimately everything is going to be alright, and the determined choice to praise God in every situation.” Kay Warren

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What is your definition of joy?
2. Does your definition of joy align with Kay Warren's description of joy (above)?
3. **Read Psalm 126.** The writer of this psalm looks back through history in verses 1-3. Looking at verses 1-2, go through each descriptive line of what the author is remembering. How do they lead to the writer's conclusion in verse 3?
4. How does knowing what God has done in the past offer encouragement to the uncertain circumstances that you face in life?
5. What "history" do you have in your own life where God "restored" you?
6. Pastor Cathy mentioned that the southern desert of Judah was well-known for its incredibly dry seasons as well as their sudden flash floods. How does that help your understanding of Psalm 126:4? Is there an area of your life where you need a “flash flood” restoration?
7. Psalm 126:5-6 speaks of a FUTURE joy. In what ways does the Gospel make these verses a reality?
8. What has God done to assure us that our eternal destiny is one filled with joy? How do we live in the tension between grieving painful times and living in the joy of Christ?

PRAYER: Spend some time sharing prayer requests and pray for one another. Do you know people in your own life that need this sort of restoration? Take time now to pray for them.