

# GROWTH GUIDE

*For you. Your family. Your group.*

CHRISTMAS SONGS  
SONG OF JOY | PSALM 98  
FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 11, 2022

## SERMON OUTLINE

1. Rejoice in Christ's redemptive plan fulfilled (Psalm 98:1-3)
2. Rejoice in Christ's kingship (Psalm 98:4-6)
3. Rejoice in Christ's coming judgement (Psalm 98:7-9)

## GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Check for understanding: Summarize the different parts of God's plan for redemption. Feel free to include other parts that weren't mentioned this past Sunday morning. Could you articulate that to someone without any help? Without your Bible? Would you know where to go in Scripture even if you had a Bible?
2. Looking back at the passage and your notes, what was something that you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or you have questions about?
3. Give specific examples of how idols might promise joy that we can be on the lookout for. What are some ways things or other people can sneakily take the place of God? How can we use thankfulness to protect ourselves from being vulnerable to this sort of idolatry?
4. Pastor Jeff gave some highlights of God's redemptive plan as found in the Bible. While we would agree they're all good things to keep in mind, many of us knew all of those things but wouldn't say it frequently leads to joy in our lives. How do we actively rejoice in those truths in a way that actually impacts how we live/feel?
5. How do you think about passages of Scripture like Psalm 98:4 or Philippians 4:4 that seem to require joy and rejoicing? Is it sinful not to feel happy? Is it talking about a different sort of rejoicing? Based on your answer, what do we do when we don't feel joy?

## BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

1. Fear of death is extremely common, yet rarely discussed. How do you feel about death and the impending judgement of Christ? Ready? At peace? Rejoicing? How confident are you that you're on your way to heaven?
2. I What idol is most in the way you fully experiencing the joy of the Lord? Is there anything that needs to be brought to the light? If so, share that with the group. What's the next step in rooting out that sin for you? How can we pray for you?

## PRAYER POINTS

1. Pray that in the midst of everything else going on in life, you would know the pleasures forevermore (Psalm 16:11) of God.
2. Praise God for His redemptive plan, His lordship, and His coming judgement.
3. Ask God to help us desire His kingship more, and the kingship of other thing and people less.