

Joyful and Teachable

Luke 5:33-39

Of course, Christ followers are not immune to struggles and hard seasons and even catastrophic loss; nevertheless, if there is a prevailing attitude or outlook that should mark our lives, it is one of _____.

Discussion 1. To you, what is the difference between Christian “joy” and secular happiness? Are there any regular rhythms, disciplines or mindsets that help you maintain a prevailing attitude of “joy”?

As Christ followers, we must hold fast to God’s Word (i.e., the scripture) while humbly holding more loosely our narrow interpretations or applications of God’s Word. Becoming _____ is a very real danger.

Discussion 2. How do you know if you have become too rigid or unteachable in any specific interpretation or application of scripture? When you study the Bible, how do you keep your heart pliable and open to new ideas or understandings?

Christ followers are not called upon to embrace every change our cultures throw at us. To do so would mean we are following the wrong leader. But when God Himself is doing something new, we should _____.

Discussion 3. If we are to accommodate every new thing God is doing but not necessarily new things our culture is doing, how do you discern the difference? If you have questions about that, where do you take those questions?

We all find comfort in the familiar...even when we know there may be better options available to us. Following Christ sometimes means having to let go of the familiar in order to enter into something entirely _____ and _____.

Discussion 4. Share about a time or circumstance when God led you into something entirely new and unfamiliar. Did you know it was God at the time? If so, how? If not, why not?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?