

COMPLETE JOY

Sermon Study Guide

October 6, 2019

1. What has been the happiest, most joyful moment in your life up to today? Or... Describe an experience in your life that caused you to just explode with rejoicing?
2. Read Genesis 1:1; John 1:1; and 1 John 1:1. What is similar about these verses? What do we learn from this similarity? What does John mean by "In the beginning..."?
3. Read 1 John 1:1-4. What is John emphasizing to us in 1 John 1:1?
4. When you hear the phrase "the Word of Life" (1 Jn 1:1-2) what does that mean to you? Compare this phrase to John 1:3-4. Does this shed more light on "the Word of Life?" How so?
5. John also says in vs 1-2, "we have heard, we have seen with our eyes, our hands have touched." What is he trying to communicate to the reader here?
6. In vs. 3, John is inviting those he is speaking to into "fellowship." What kind of fellowship is this?
7. He explains this "fellowship" further in vs. 3. What does fellowship "with us" have to do with "fellowship with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ."
8. John says in vs. 4, "We write this to make *our* (some manuscripts say *your*) joy complete." What does he mean to make "Joy Complete?"
9. What does this have to do with those who are "outside" the church fellowship?
10. The Greek word for "fellowship" is Koinonia. Koinonia can also mean "Communion." Communion with God or, with fellow Christians." When we commemorate Jesus' last supper, we call it Communion. If Koinonia can be translated as "communion" what does this tell us about Christian fellowship? Does this shed any new light for you on the practice of Communion?
11. What does all this have to do with Seeing/Hearing/Touching Jesus today? What is the relationship with...? Creation – Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:20 The Word – Psalm 33:9; John 1:1; Hebrews 4:12 Fellowship – 1 Corinthians 12:12; Hebrews 10:24-25 The Holy Spirit – John 14:18, 20-21; 1 John 3:24
12. What did Roger mean by the statement, "Christian discipleship must be *experiential*." What does all this have to do with our Mission to the "outside world?" How does this involve you personally?