

Sermon Discussion Guide:

Rediscovering the Joy of Salvation

Sunday, December 26, 2021

Scripture: **Psalm 40**

OVERVIEW

The end of the calendar year is a great time to reflect on our spiritual, physical, emotional, and financial wellness. Among these areas, the most important question to ask is how your faith is faring. Do you feel energized or burdened as you reflect on your relationship with God? The joy of salvation is found in looking back and looking forward to God's grace.

CORROBORATING TEXTS

Hebrews 10:5-10, Hebrews 9:13-14, John 6:38-39, Mark 1:14, Luke 24:13-27, Romans 8:30-39, Psalm 138:7, Romans 15:13

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. As 2021 ends, do you feel energized or burdened as you reflect on your relationship with God? Why?
2. Psalm 40:5 tells us that God multiplies His wondrous deeds and thoughts toward those who believe.
 - a. Does this truth correspond with your day-to-day perception? Why or why not?
 - b. Brainstorm as a group and share the ways He has given grace upon grace to you.
3. Who is speaking in Psalm 40:6-10? *[David as he penned them through inspiration of the Spirit, but ultimately also Jesus as evidenced in Hebrews 10:5-10 and elsewhere]*
4. Why is it important to understand that this Psalm is about Jesus? *[because there is no true, lasting joy of salvation apart from the specific, ultimate sacrifice of Jesus for our sins as described in Hebrews 9:13-14]*
5. Psalm 11-17 reminds us that God promises more grace for the believer. How does harboring sinful thoughts and deeds rob you of the joy He desires for you?
6. How will you remember to reflect on God's great gift—already given and yet to come—this year?