



#7: Psalm 126 – Growth Group Discussion

WARM UP: What would you say have been your best years?

SERMON REFLECTION

- Can you think of a time where you were able to walk in joy, despite experiencing difficult circumstances? How did God strengthen you during this time?
- Pastor Dan shared how with the “American Dream” we think that joy can be purchased. Can you think of a purchase you’ve made that ended up being a huge letdown?
- Has God ever done something so great you had to pinch yourself to see if you were dreaming?
- Pastor Dan shared that we experience a deeper joy when it’s seasoned with suffering and longing. How can that be? Have you ever experienced this?
- In v2, we see that the laughter and shouting (joy) of the Jews was a witness to their neighbors. On a scale of 1 to 10, what has your “joy witness” been? How does one grow in this area?
- Who is someone you know and admire because of how they’ve been able to walk in joy, despite difficult circumstances?
- Following v3, the Psalmist looks forward, offering two images of how God answers prayer (brings restoration); 1) A desert rainstorm replenishing dry river channels, 2) A farmer’s field (from sowing to reaping).
 - In what ways do they differ?

- When have you experienced God answering prayer the first way?
- When have you experienced God answering prayer the second way?
- With the second image, the Psalmist calls us to be prayerfully patient, but not passive. (While a farmer must wait for the harvest, there is also a lot of work for him to do in between the sowing and reaping.)
 - On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your prayer life lately? How might this group encourage you to grow in this area?
- Where is God calling you to “work” as you wait for His restoration?

If you haven't yet, take some time to agree on and commit to a way of **SERVING TOGETHER** as a group. If you need some ideas, contact Pastor Bryan (bryan.pohlen@mitchellwesleyan.com).