

Romans 5:1-11 "Joy's Location"

1. Where are some of the places we locate our joy as human beings?

Read Romans 5:1-11

2. (vs. 1-2) What are the benefits of the good news of Jesus that Paul invites us to make the foundation of our joy? Which one stands out to you the most and why?
3. In what ways does suffering expose where we have located our joy?
4. We rejoice in suffering because suffering gives us the opportunity to press more into the joy we have in Jesus. What are some of the ways you think we can press more into this joy practically?
5. (vs 3-5) How does suffering change us? Consider a trial or difficulty you have encountered – do Paul's words bear out in reality?
6. We know that suffering doesn't always produce such realities – Paul expresses that such things come out of suffering because we are flooded with God's love by way of the Holy Spirit. Why is an assurance of God's love key to how we come through suffering?

Read John 16:16-22; Hebrews 12: 1-3

7. From these verses where was Jesus' joy located? How did that joy order and direct his life? How will it order and direct our own lives should Jesus' joy be made our joy?