



Part One: Who We Are

For centuries, God has invited His people to celebrate regularly. The Old Testament festivals were parties with a purpose: remembering God's faithfulness and anticipating His promises.

Scripture: Leviticus 23

Bottom Line: Party People practice gratitude.

Discussion Questions

1. Read Psalm 122:1 – What has been your experience with church growing up? Was it a place that you were excited to go to? Or was it a place that you begrudgingly went or stayed away from entirely?
2. If your unbelieving friend described to you in one word what they thought of a Christian and their temperament, what do you think they might say? Why?
3. Pastor Brock mentioned that from the beginning God has designed it so that his people would be known for joy and celebration - that God wants us to come together and celebrate life together. Thoughts? Read 1 Thess. 5:16-18.
4. God had established 7 festivals in Leviticus 23 for the people of God to participate in. God knew it was important for them to slow down and spend time looking back on His faithfulness and to also look ahead to what God will do. How is this a formula for joy?
5. Take some time as a group and look back at God's faithfulness in your lives. How have you seen God come through for you in the past? What has God provided for you that shows his faithfulness?
6. Now take some time and look ahead to what God said he will do. Discuss. (see 1 Peter 1:3-4, 2 Corinthians 4:17-18, John 14:1-3, Matthew 28:20 as examples)

Moving Forward:

American scholar Brene Brown said: "people who have a joyful life actively practice gratitude and attributed their joyfulness to their gratitude practice." Do you practice gratitude to God? Do you celebrate and appreciate the people around you? Do people in your life feel appreciated? What is one way you can practice gratitude to God this week? Who is someone in your life that you will practice gratitude to this week?