



## LOUDER WEEK 2 DEVOTIONAL

### JOY

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#### RECEIVE

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Slowly. Prayerfully, read out loud **John 15:1–11**. Before and after each reading, pause for a moment of silence. In that silence pray asking the Spirit of Christ to guide you into knowing and living what you are receiving from the Scripture. Consider, what does God want you to reflect on and learn?

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#### REFLECT

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1. What is one idea from the message that captured your attention?
2. How have you experienced great joy in a positive? And how have you experienced great joy during a hard or painful time in your life?
3. What is the difference between happiness and joy?
4. Do you find it easy to be full of joy? Why or why not?
5. What does "to abide", or "remain in" Jesus mean? How does it look in your everyday life? How does that enable joy?
6. How can the pruning, or refining of our lives by God produce more joy?
7. From what you heard in the message, how does it help you understand and live into the following passages?

- a. **Hebrews 12:2** | For the joy set before Him, [Jesus] endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- b. **1 Thessalonians 5:16** | Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.
- c. **James 1:2–3** | Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.

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## RESPOND

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Write a prayer to God sharing how you are experiencing joy in the midst of hard circumstances. If you can't, right now, that's OK. Ask God to lead you to a place where that would be possible. Write a prayer towards that desire. Share with someone you trust how you responded to this section.

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## REMEMBER

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**Memorize James 1–3** | Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.

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## SCRIPTURE

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**John 15:1–11** | New International Version

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in Me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit He prunes[a] so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in Me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me.

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in Me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples.

As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Now remain in My love. If you keep My commands, you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commands and remain in His love. I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.