

Shout for Joy! (3/19/23)

Main Verses: Psalm 32

Key Verse: Psalm 32:11

'Takeaway': We can be glad in the LORD and rejoice because we know the only true solution for sin is found in forgiveness that only God can give.

Getting Started: What's something that has made you very happy or excited?

READ Psalm 32 (or have older kids help read).

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- Who does David say is blessed? Why are they blessed?
- Who can be truly happy?
- What does God do for his people?
- How does David say we should respond to God's forgiveness?

Elementary:

- Who does David say is blessed in this psalm and why?
- Why is it important to confess our sins?
- What does God do for his people?
- Why does David say to not be like a horse or a mule? What does that mean?
- How should we respond to God's mercy and grace?

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses :

Toddler/PreK:

- We are blessed when our sins are forgiven by God.
- God takes care of his people. He listens to them, forgives them, and teaches them to walk in his way.
- God wants us to come to him ready to listen.
- We should celebrate (be excited about) God's forgiveness through Jesus. It makes us want to follow him and obey him.

Elementary:

- We are blessed when our sins are forgiven by God.
- God wants us to surrender our me-centered (stubborn like a mule) lives by admitting we are sinners who need his leadership.
- Jesus' death and resurrection made it possible for us to know God and experience his forgiveness and grace every day as we walk with him.
- God's forgiveness makes us want to please him by following him and obey him.
- We should celebrate with shouts of joy (be excited about) God's amazing provision through faith in Jesus.

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God, thanking him for his great mercy and forgiveness. Thank God that we can experience these things through faith in Jesus. Ask him to help you learn more about him each day, and to celebrate all he has done for us.

(Elementary) Talk to God, thanking him for his great mercy and forgiveness. Thank God for sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins and be resurrected on the third day so that we can experience his love and forgiveness forever. Ask him to help you to not be stubborn but to give you a soft heart and open ears as you learn more about him. **Admit** you are guilty of living a me-centered life instead of a God-centered one. **Believe** that Jesus is your only hope for forgiveness, freedom, and forever with God. With your whole heart and being, **commit** yourself to following Jesus' loving leadership. And then celebrate his amazing provision for you. If you pray this, or have questions about what it means, talk to a trusted adult in your life about it.

