



KNOWING GOD

JOHN 15-21

Week 3: John 16:16-33 - Sorrow Turned to Joy

Big Idea: Because Jesus is going to the Father (via the cross) we can be loved by the Father and so have lasting joy.



1. When have you had to wait for something that was worth the wait?



2. Read John 16:16. Use this verse to discuss: where are we in John's gospel? What's just been happening? What's about to happen?

Read John 16:16-33



3. How many times is the phrase "little while" repeated? What makes these two 'little while's so important?
a. [helper question: What might the two "little while's" refer to?]



4. Take some time to reflect on the 'childbirth' metaphor in verse 20-22. What is the metaphor expressing? What insights does it give to
a. What the disciples are about to experience
b. What Jesus is about to experience
c. The good that will follow



5. Re-read verses 23-28. Jesus anticipates things changing in the way the disciples relate to God
a. What changes does Jesus anticipate with regard to prayer? (who they ask, for what)
b. What does this reflect about what their relationship with God will be like? (verse 26-27)



6. How does verse 33 narrow and focus our understanding of what Jesus is promising in v23-24?



8. How does someone enter into relationship with the Father and receive his love? (verse 27)



7. Jesus promises complete and lasting joy. There are plenty of other things that seem to promise joy. What other joys do you find most alluring? How do they compare with the joy Jesus offers? What makes his joy better?



Discussion Question



Context Question



Structure Question



Observation Question



Meaning Question



Application Question