

## LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE:

(60-minute session—02-23-20)

**Message Series:** This series is about living, rather than just existing. It's about living an unlimited life in Christ. It's about confronting the obstacles that keep us from moving forward as faithful followers of Jesus. It's about challenging us to be so focused that we will no longer settle for merely existing.

Today's lesson is a continued focus on the "Fruit" produced by the Holy Spirit in our lives.

### **JOY: What is the difference between joy and happiness?**

#### **1. God is the \_\_\_\_\_ of true joy:**

What did you learn about God? Have you ever thought of Jesus as being joyful? Can you think of some specific examples where Jesus expressed a lighthearted/joyful attitude?

When it comes to joy, what did Jesus ultimately want? Read the following passages and talk about the joy of Christ. How do these verses impact your thinking about Jesus? (John 15:9-11; Hebrews 12:2)

How does God transfer joy into our lives?

#### **2. God wants us to \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ of joy:**

Living a life of joy requires the appropriate priorities in life. Discuss the importance of each.

- 1.) Putting \_\_\_\_\_ first in your life. (When does joy come?)
- 2.) Putting \_\_\_\_\_ above self. (What do you do when your joy is slipping?)
- 3.) Putting \_\_\_\_\_ in the equation too. (Why is it important to do self-care?)

### **PEACE: What is the world's answer to finding peace?**

#### **1. The disciples are in \_\_\_\_\_:**

Read Matthew 8:23-24 and talk about what you see and learn from those verses.

Take a few minutes and talk about the Christian journey. Would you call the journey easy or difficult? Is there one lesson, if given the opportunity, you would want to share with a new Christian about following Jesus?

#### **2. Jesus has the \_\_\_\_\_:**

Read Matthew 8:25-27 and then talk about the lesson that the disciples had to learn.

What did you learn about the word SHALOM?

What did you learn about the desire of the Holy Spirit?