



God Wants You to Be Happy

Scripture: Psalm 37:4

Series: God Never Said That

God doesn't exist to _____ us. We exist to _____ God.

God wants us to _____ Him.

2 reasons God doesn't want you to pursue happiness:

- When it causes you to do something _____ or _____.
- When it's only _____ on the things of this _____.
 - 1 John 2:15-17

God wants you to be _____.

- *Makarios*
- You will experience the _____ of God in the middle of the _____ of life.
- God wants to be _____ in our life, even as we live within a _____ world.
- Blessing: The supernatural _____ of God.

Psalm 37:4 - "Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart."

- *anog* = delight - the idea of being made _____ and _____

Start talking.

- If God really were a cosmic soda machine, which drink would you be?
- What are some things that just plain make you happy??

Start thinking.

- What does culture say you need to be happy?
- How much of your day do you spend seeking out things that make you happy?
- If God doesn't just want you happy, then what does He want?
- Read Proverbs 14:2. Think of a time you did something wrong or unwise in pursuit of happiness. Are you currently being tempted to do something wrong or unwise?
- Read Psalm 37:1-7. Think about how you delight in the Lord. How have you experienced the blessings of God even when life isn't going the way you want?

Start sharing.

- What are some mini-gods in your life—stuff, perfection, having your way, control, feeling good?
- What is the scariest part about replacing the pursuit of happiness with the pursuit of God?
- List out loud some of the things in your life you think you should value higher than happiness?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

God, I admit that I often know much but obey little. Help me not to just know but to understand and follow through. Help me to adhere your words in my heart that I may be found faithful as I point to you in every area of my life.

Start Doing:

- Are you counting on something in the future like a job, spouse, house, or education to make life better? What step will you take this week to put your hope in Christ instead?
- Choose 1-2 things that you've been putting in front of God and skip them for a week. Replace them with time with God.
- As a group, how can we model to each other what it looks like to delight in God instead of just pursuing happiness?