

RECAPTURE THE JOY

Luke 2.8-20

The joy of the shepherds.

They return to the fields.

We all have to return sometime ... How do we **Recapture the Joy?**

What brought Jesus joy? (John 15.11, Hebrews 12.1-3)

For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12.2

1. Doing his father's will.
2. Completing his mission of bringing salvation to the world.

How can you recapture the joy in living, especially in these days?

1. Get rid of the **JOY-ROBBERS** .

...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles... Hebrews 12.1

2. **FOCUS YOUR LIFE** on Jesus and his teachings.

...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith... Hebrews 12.2

3. Be in it with Jesus for the **LONG HAUL**.

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us... Hebrews 12.1

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work **so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*** James 1.2-3

4. Don't make it just about you: **BRING JOY TO OTHERS** .

...they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child... Luke 2.17

...and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2.18-19

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. Hebrews 13.16

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52.7

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What is God saying to me?

What am I going to do about it?

Love God, Love Others, Learn Jesus, DO SOMETHING!

Today's sermon can be found on our website beaverdambaptist.org