

“... pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart”  
2 Timothy 2:22

## February 21st, 2021 - Which is Easier? To Weep or Rejoice?

Seems like an odd question doesn't it? You might be thinking, “Uh, rejoicing is way easier than weeping thank you very much!” How about in this context?



“Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.” (Romans 12:15). Romans 12 compares the church to a body. If one body part gets hurt, we hurt with it! When we stub our toe, the pain shoots through our whole body! Our face grimaces, we jump up and down, rubbing our toe to ease the pain.

Likewise, when one body part is healed, the rest of the body rejoices! When a headache goes away, we can smile again! When a broken leg heals, we can exercise and restore health to the rest of our body!

If one of our brothers or sisters in Christ is weeping because they lost a loved one, a job, or were diagnosed with a severe illness, we should feel that. We hurt when they hurt. It takes a cold-hearted person to see a loved one weeping and not be moved. The shortest verse in the Bible speaks volumes of our Savior's love. When He saw Mary and Martha weeping over the loss of their brother, “Jesus wept.” (John 11:35).

In contrast, let's say a brother or sister in Christ is rejoicing because they got a promotion or a raise at work, or a new car, or they got engaged! We should feel that too! We should be joyful when good things happen to our loved ones!

But I ask again, which is easier? To weep with others or rejoice with others? I think for many people rejoicing with others is harder! Why? Because when we see someone weeping, it doesn't threaten our sense of security. It tugs on our hearts because pain is a shared human experience, part of the curse of sin in this world. It reminds us we're all in this together and we want to let those who weep know they're not alone.

On the other hand, when something good happens to someone, it can make *us* feel alone. “How come that didn't happen for me?” It can bring out our insecurities and make us question, “Am I doing life right?” “I deserve a break too, don't I?” “Everyone's leaving me behind.” Sometimes we secretly compete with people around us. If someone's weeping, it's safe to weep with them because it means we're still ahead. If someone's rejoicing, it means we're falling behind! How can I rejoice with them when I'm still stuck with this salary, this car, this house, this neighborhood, this level of spiritual maturity, this kind of marriage, etc.?

What's the solution? How can rejoicing with others get easier? Consider these verses: “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor.” (12:10). “Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly.” (12:16a). Grab hold of love; let loose of pride. Don't compare and don't compete. Our life circumstances or social status have no bearing on our worth as God's children. Nothing can separate us from God's love! (Romans 8:38-39). When we're secure in His love, we'll work together with, not against, our brothers and sisters in Christ, and with everyone. We won't be arrogant when things go well or bitter when things go wrong. We'll be content in any circumstance! When great things happen to others, we can be happy for them because we're happy in God. Which is easier; to weep or rejoice with others? When God's mercies transform us (Rom. 12:1-2), they're both just as easy!

### Sunday Worship Services

9 a.m. Lord's Supper Service  
9:45 a.m. Bible Class  
10:45 a.m. Praise & Preaching

Wednesday Bible Classes 7:30 p.m.

### Elders

Herb Hinely 407-339-4805  
Jeff Hunt 407-739-5266  
Joe Rimmer 407-414-7393  
Dave Weaver 407-782-1112  
Tim Welsh 407-670-8279

### Deacons

Matt Hinely, Terry Petty  
Erik Quist, Rory Salimbene  
Jack Thomas, Terry Tokash  
Emory VanCleaf

### Evangelist

Brian Messerli 407-300-2517  
620 Palm Springs Drive  
Altamonte Springs  
407-831-3230



2/21/21

Be \_\_\_\_\_ formed, not \_\_\_\_\_ formed

## Become a \_\_\_\_\_ Sacrifice

- **Romans 12:1**
- God wants the devotion, love, and \_\_\_\_\_ life of the offerer. (**Psalm 40:6-8; Hebrews 10:5**)
  - *It's the rational thing to do in response to God's mercies!*
    - \* \_\_\_\_\_ on God's mercies.
    - \* God's mercies \_\_\_\_\_ the fuse that \_\_\_\_\_ the explosion of our transformation.
    - \* **Romans 1-11** = God's mercies. **Romans 12-15** = Our response.
    - \* *Practicality without robust theology is just \_\_\_\_\_-help.*
      - **Romans 12:14, 17-21**

## Don't be Conformed to this World

- **Romans 12:2**
- Don't let the world press you into its Godless \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't be \_\_\_\_\_! (**Romans 1:28-32**)
  - When we try to fit in with the world, we have to lose our devotion to God.
  - We become spiritual \_\_\_\_\_!
    - \* **Romans 6:19-21** - Remember where the world takes us
    - \* **1 John 2:15-17** - "Don't love what's only going to \_\_\_\_\_ you."

## Be Transformed!

- **Romans 12:2**
- **Matthew 17:2** - Put the brightness of God's \_\_\_\_\_ on display through your humanity!
- **Romans 8:29a** - Conformity that leads to transformation! (**Romans 12:9-13**)
  - \* God renews our minds through His Word and through us using our bodies for Him! (**Romans 1:24, 28**)
  - \* *How we live with our bodies affects how we think with our minds.*

***Our transformation proves God's will is:***

*Good*

*Acceptable*

*Perfect*

### Questions for H2H Discussion

1. In what way(s) have you been tempted to conform to the world in your thinking or behavior?
2. Which one of God's mercies motivates you the most to be transformed? (Second to Jesus' sacrifice on the cross of course)
3. What are some practical ways to actively renew our minds?
4. What has been one of the biggest transformations in your life because of the gospel?

# Announcements

Sunday, February 21st, 2021

Please email all new announcements to [announcements@psd.church](mailto:announcements@psd.church).

## SICK/HEALTH ISSUES:

- **Dwayne's dad, Richard Gandy**, is in Vanderbilt hospital in TN being treated for a severe rash. The treatments so far are helping, but the doctors hope to have more solutions next week.
- **Kathy Lodge** was diagnosed with a rare lung problem, but she is grateful it's only mild to moderate and not severe. Surgery is not required, and the doctors will put her on an 18-month treatment plan.
- **Anne Welsh** had major surgery on her foot and it went well. She still has to stay off of it and keep it elevated.
- **Karisma Quist's** dizzy spells are getting better. She has more appointments this week.
- **Marilyn Petty's** back surgery went well, but it'll take a few months to recover.

## FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF PSD:

- **Ben and Michelle Hunt** welcomed a baby boy to the world last Sunday (Valentine's Day)! His name is Felix Otto Hunt and came in at 8lbs. 4 oz. Mom and baby are doing great!
- **Pat Steele's son, Bruce**, is still sick and awaiting tests results on a mass in his throat.

## TRAVELING:

- **Phil and Gail Story** are in Texas visiting family for a couple weeks..

## SHUT-IN:

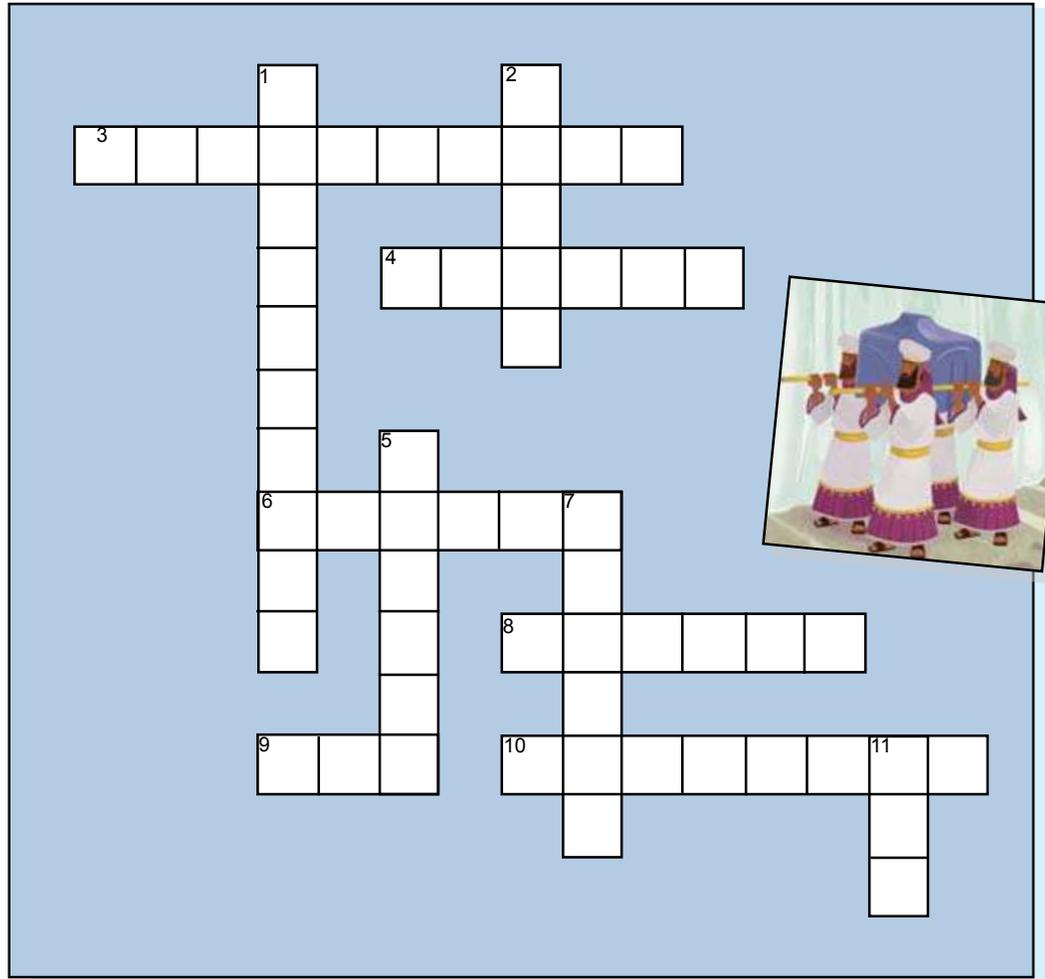
- **Anne Dickson**
- **Thurman and Lynna Davis**
- **Geny Harrison**
- **Patsy Holt**
- **Peggy Hunt**
- **Pat Steele**
- **Bea Deboe**

## SPECIAL CONCERNS ABOUT GETTING COVID-19:

- **Carol Van Cleef**
- **Diane Thyben**
- **Mary Ann Rubright**
- **Anna Marcotte**



# God Stopped the Jordan River Crossword Puzzle



## ACROSS

- 3. Set apart; sanctify
- 4. Number after eleven
- 6. Groups of people, usually related
- 8. He was the leader of the people who crossed the Jordan River.
- 9. Not wet
- 10. Something that reminds people of an event

## DOWN

- 1. The people who crossed the Jordan River
- 2. Rivers are made of this.
- 5. "The Lord's hand is \_\_\_\_\_."
- 7. Another word for rocks
- 11. \_\_\_\_\_ of the covenant