



WELLSPRING CHURCH

EAT - Celebration

Introduction:

God celebrates. He invented delight, joy and celebration. And one way we enter into the divine life of the Trinity is through celebration. Whether solemn or exhilarating, formal or spontaneous, celebration can enlarge our capacity to enjoy and serve God. Celebrating God does not depend on perfect circumstances or happy feelings. This world is full of brokenness, pain and suffering. Celebration doesn't ignore the reality of pain, but declares in the face of pain that pain does not have the final word.

Scriptures:

Read and discuss Isaiah 25v6-9, Luke 15, Philippians 4v6, and 1 Thessalonians 5v16-18

Reflection Questions:

1. Describe a meaningful celebration you attended. What were the essential ingredients that made it a celebration and what were the elements that made it meaningful?
2. Do you find celebrating easy or awkward? Why do you think that is? Do you find certain events or people easier to celebrate? Why?
3. What celebration rhythms do you currently have in your life? Which of these rhythms are focused on you? Which are focused on others?
4. Where do you find it easiest to celebrate God and His work in your life? Alone? With others? In worship? In music? In nature? What does this tell you about how God made you and how you most naturally meet with him?

Experiment: (Choose One)

1. Throw a really good party with your community and invite people from the neighborhood. Don't have an agenda other than being together and having a really good time. Journal about the experience.
2. Intentionally place yourself in the presence of God. Recall all of God's gifts, provisions, guidance and love toward you. To celebrate God's grace towards you, write a song of celebration, make a collage that represents joy, write a poem of praise, play music and dance before the Lord, or memorize a verse of praise and repeat it throughout the coming days. Journal about it.

Pod Discussion:

1. As you listened to the podcast (watched the video), what struck you or stood out to you?
2. What was your experience of the experiment like? Was it enjoyable? Uncomfortable? Did you notice anything about yourself, God or the world?
3. Is God inviting you to change anything in the way you do your life?

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