

February 12, 2023 Formed - Celebration

Summary – A way our enemy caricatures Christianity is to paint us as fun haters. By no means is this a new tactic but stretches back to the origins of our Faith. The answer is to take a 30,000 feet view of Scripture to see the constant desire God has to be generous and bless His people with joyful celebration.

Scripture – Genesis 2:16-17, 12:3, 26:4, 28:14, Exodus 23:14, Nehemiah 8:8-12, John 2:1-11; Ephesians 5:18; Matthew 11:19; Psalm 51:12, 16:11; Hebrews 2:9

Community Group Questions:

(There is no obligation to discuss every question/quotation)

Introduction

If there lurks in most modern minds the notion that to desire our own good and earnestly hope for the enjoyment of it is a bad thing, I submit that this notion has crept in from Kant and the Stoics and is no part of the Christian faith. C.S. Lewis

- 1. "Celebration makes sin less attractive." Discuss
- 2. How well do you think you celebrate?

Culture: (John 2:1-3)

- 1. Like Jesus at the wedding, how can we embrace culture?
- 2. Is there a part of you that would criticize the miracle Jesus did at the wedding?

Shame: (Ps 51:12)

1. How has the enemy used shame to rip you off and keep you from celebrating?

Worship: (Ps 16:11)

1. How has God designed worship to bring us into the joy of Jesus' presence?

People: (Exodus 23:14)

1. How are you planning in celebration?