

**Enter In  
To His Joy  
9/7/24  
Newport News**

## Opening

### **-I Kings 19:9-12**

- Give some context for story
- Recount Mount Carmel
- Drought ends
- Elijah outruns chariots
- Flees in fear for his life
- God's presence marked by power and might
- God's presence marked by passion and zeal
- God's presence marked by joy and delight
- (talk about the feeling of a whisper)

-talk about how people sometimes talk about going to church makes them feel so good...that's joy and delight!

-You don't have to wait to come to church to find that feeling of joy and delight in God's presence!

## Introduction

-Any Scrabble players out there? How about Wordle? (what's your favorite starting letters?)

- **AEINRST**
- 66 8 letter words using an existing tile on the board (BANISTER)

**-When you allow God to rearrange and at times replace some of the parts and pieces of your life, you can Enter In to His joy!**

### **-Psalm 16:11 (NKJV)**

- The path of life
- His presence
- Fullness of joy forevermore

**When you live your life according to God's ways, you experience His abiding presence marked by a feeling of impossible joy regardless of your present circumstances.**

## **The Path of Life**

**-Psalm 16:11 (underline portion we are discussing)**

-The path of life = living according to God's ways

**-If we were to overlay the path of your present life with the path God expects of you, how much overlap would there be?**

**(slide to include two overlapping circles)**

(give me some examples of how God's Ways and Our ways sometimes don't overlap)

-Matthew 5-7 (Jesus is contrasting their ways and God's ways)

*-Could it be that you are here tonight and you feel distant and disconnected from God because your life doesn't have enough path overlap?*

## **His Presence**

**-Psalm 16:11 (underline portion we are discussing)**

**-(show circles again)**

*-So then, the more my life is in alignment with how God expects me to live, the more I find myself in His presence...the more my path becomes His path, the more I am awakened to the presence of a living God!*

(you understand the imagery...you are walking together!)

-His company vs. His presence (people every week at church...)

**-John 1:43-47**

-John 8:59 (same Jesus, very different result)

## Fullness of Joy Forevermore

-**Psalm 16:11** is reminding us that joy is a feeling that over time can become a virtue (Galatians 5:22 Greek cousins is "chairō").

-Hebrew word is "simchah" (sim-khaw)

- Mirth, gladness, joy of God, happy
- Root word: joyful, merry, and glad
- Origin word: to rejoice, to be glad, to cause to rejoice

*>happiness is a feeling that is circumstance dependent*

*>joy is a feeling that is God dependent*

*>Joyfulness is a virtue based on the character of Christ in you!*

-(talk about making room for lament, grief, sorrow, trauma...)

-(talk about mental health, brain chemistry...)

## Band

**-Joy is happiness with a heavy dose of delight that comes from being in God's presence regardless of my circumstances.**

*-Remember...God wants to use your life to spell Jesus to the world and His joy through you is a great start!*