The Joy of Forgiveness

MEMORY VERSE: "The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best path way for your life. I will advise you and watch over you." Psalm 32:8

DAY 1 PSALM 32:1-2—Joy of Confession

1. What do these verses tell you about sin:
   Romans 3:23

   James 4:17

   1 John 1:8

2. How are we made right with God today? See Romans 3:22, 25a.

3. Read Psalm 32:1-2. Why does God's forgiveness bring joy?

4. What does living life in complete honesty mean to you? Why does living life this way bring joy?

DAY 2 PSALM 32:3-5—Pain of Refusing to Confess

5. What happens to you when you don't confess your sins?

6. How can guilt and shame paralyze us?

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7. *"I—yes, I alone—will blot out your sins for my own sake and will never think of them again."* Isaiah 43:25
When you ask God for forgiveness do you truly believe He forgives and forgets? Explain.

8. When you are forgiven do you let go of all guilt and shame? Explain.

DAY 3 PSALM 32:6-7—God is Ready to Forgive and Protect

9. God is ready to forgive. He is waiting on us to confess. What does verse 6 tell you?

10. How do you change your focus from your sin to God, so that you don't stay stuck in your sin?

11. What blessings of your relationship with God do you miss the most when sin is in the way?

12. What in verse 7 speaks to you the most? Why?

DAY 4 PSALM 32:8-12—Blessings of Mercy and Joy

13. What will God do for those who are in fellowship with Him?

14. Why would we let disobedience, sin and guilt keep us from this life?

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15. Read verse 9. How might verse 9 be speaking to you?

16. *"The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning."* Lamentations 3:23-24 How does this encourage you?

17. What does verse 11 look like in your life?

DAY 5 PSALM 32—Wrap Up

18. Do you remember the freeing feeling (spiritually and mentally) after confessing to God?

19. This Psalm gives repeated and compelling reasons for the believer to rejoice, be glad and to shout for joy. What brings you the most joy from this lesson?

TAKE AWAY

You can be free from guilt before God today and every day!
How does this change your life daily?

BLESSING

"What joy for those whose record the Lord has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty!" Psalms 32:2

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The Joy of Forgiveness

A psalm of David.

1 Oh, what joy for those
whose disobedience is forgiven,
whose sin is put out of sight!
2 Yes, what joy for those
whose record the Lord has cleared of guilt,
whose lives are lived in complete honesty!
3 When I refused to confess my sin,
my body wasted away,
and I groaned all day long.
4 Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me.
My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat.

5 Finally, I confessed all my sins to you
and stopped trying to hide my guilt.
I said to myself, "I will confess my rebellion to the Lord."
And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.

6 Therefore, let all the godly pray to you while there is still time,
that they may not drown in the floodwaters of judgment.
7 For you are my hiding place;
you protect me from trouble.
You surround me with songs of victory.

8 The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life.
I will advise you and watch over you.
9 Do not be like a senseless horse or mule
that needs a bit and bridle to keep it under control."

10 Many sorrows come to the wicked,
but unfailing love surrounds those who trust the Lord.
11 So rejoice in the Lord and be glad, all you who obey him!
Shout for joy, all you whose hearts are pure!

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