



More Than Happy

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Q—Who here wants to be happy?

May all who are godly be happy in the Lord... Psalm 97:12a (TLB)

Today's Core Truth: If your goal in life

is to just be happy you never will be.

⇒ **If happiness is my goal, then _____ is defined by whatever makes me happy.**

Relativism—assumption that there is no such thing as absolute truth.

Subjectivism—I, the subject, have the right to determine what is right and wrong without submitting my judgment to any authority outside myself.

⇒ **If happiness becomes the standard, I can always find a way to _____ my actions.**

⇒ **If happiness is my _____, then what doesn't make me happy is bad.**

Better possessions + peaceful circumstances + thrilling experiences + the right relationships + the perfect appearance = happiness

⇒ **The _____ of the pursuit of happiness is that it eventually leads to hurt and destruction.**

Judges 2:7 & 10 (NIV), Judges 17:6 (NLT)

The "Sin" Cycle

- Disobedience
- Disaster
- Deliverance

Proverbs 14:12 (NIV), 1 John 2:15–17 (NIV)

Be More Than Happy by...

⇒ **Pursuing** _____.

1 Peter 1:15–16 (NLT) , 1 John 1:8–9 (NIV)

⇒ **Choosing** _____.

James 1:2–4 (NIV) , Philippians 4:4 (NIV)

⇒ **Living** _____.

Blessed = more than happy.

Psalm 112:1 (NIV)

Fear + joyful obedience = Blessed

Q—Do you want to be more than happy?

ANSWER KEY: truth, justify, motive, downfall, holiness, joy, blessed



Study & Discussion for Your Next Small Group

Theme: *So, Are You Happy Now?*

Warm Up: How do you find your “happy place” and how would you describe it?

Sermon Response: What are some “take-aways” you received from Sunday’s message?

Read: 1 John 2:15-17

Discussion:

- What does “world” mean in this passage?
- What does it mean to “love the world,” and how is that a bad thing?
- What does each of the “worldly” ambitions mean: lust of flesh and eyes, and pride of life?
- How did Jesus combat each of them in the desert according to Luke 4:1-13?
- What are some practical ways we can combat each of these temptations?
- How is loving the world in order to make us happy in conflict with the love of God our Father?
- What are negative results of loving the world over loving God? How have you seen this in your life or those around you?
- What does it mean to do the will of God and how is it connected with us living eternally?
- How does God’s will bring joy and blessing rather than simply happiness? How have you experienced this personally in your life?
- In what specific way could you use prayer for overcoming love of the world so you can do the will of God in a greater way?

Pray Together (or in smaller micro groups)