

Choose Enthusiasm

Big Idea: The Choices I make determine the person I become

Text: Proverbs 2:11 (NLT) “Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe.”

Our choices will determine how our lives grow. In Deuteronomy 28, the Israelites were given a choice to either serve those who would enslave them or serve the Lord with **joy and enthusiasm**. As believers, we have to make this choice. There is incredible power in enthusiasm. The root definition of enthusiasm comes from the greek meaning “God within.” The very nature of the word tells us that when we choose enthusiasm in our daily lives, we choose to have God within us through the Holy Spirit. In Romans, the Apostle Paul tells us to serve the Lord enthusiastically. He tells us to keep ourselves fueled and aflame.

Choosing enthusiasm adds passion to everything we do, and it will spread to those around us. When we have enthusiasm for the Gospel and the church, people will be drawn in like a moth to a flame. Enthusiasm can even blow life to the embers of your relationships.

“Catch on fire enthusiastically and people will come for miles to watch you burn.” John Wesley

As we choose to be enthusiastic about the small things, God will lead us into greater things. John Maxwell once wrote: *“One of the greatest things you can do is to get excited about your life and start to live enthusiastically day after day; your whole world will improve. If you wait to get excited until some lucky outer event happens—guess what? If you wait, what does life do? It waits. And if you hold back until a more appropriate time to get excited what does life do? It holds back you’re going to hold back on enthusiasm, develop lots of patience, because you’re going to wait a long time for an exciting life.”*

When we live a life of enthusiasm for the positive, we begin to understand that enthusiasm is

- An energizer
- An elevator
- An eliminator of negativity

How do we become more enthusiastic?

1. It’s a choice. Be obedient to God.
2. Hang around enthusiastic people.
3. Pray and invite God to come live within you.

If you choose to live an enthusiastic life, you will influence those around you for the better.



REACHING PEOPLE WITH THE LIFE GIVING MESSAGE OF JESUS CHRIST

Community Group Questions:

1. Do you excel in enthusiasm? If you are unsure, as a good friend. Pray and take the steps to live a life of enthusiasm for God and for everything you do.
2. Are you enthusiastic for the lost? If not pray that God would fan the flames for those who need him in their lives.

Prayer Focus:

Lord Jesus, we need you. We rely on you to help us grow. Help us choose enthusiasm for You, for our families, for our work, and for those who need you. We thank you for the Cross and our salvation. Fill us today with your Spirit. AMEN.

Next Steps:

Is there anyone in the group needing a vision? Pray for them. Give them your ear as they work the vision out. Is there someone who has come to the realization that they need salvation? Pray with them. Is there someone seeking purpose? Remind them of Growth Track. Other great steps: Have you been baptized? Do you need a Bible? Do you feel like you need a mentor? Finally, remember to always put Christ first in your life.