

**FOR
THE
JOY**

JANUARY 1, 2023
RESTORATION CHURCH

God of Mercy,
You are the same yesterday, today, and forever.
As a new year dawns in our lives, we once again
offer up our whole selves to you.

As we open our eyes to the future, we ask for
your *joy* - a joy that sustains, remembers,
strengthens, and endures. Give us a joy that no
sorrow can shake and no suffering can fathom.

You have our trust. You are our hope.
Amen.

"Those who walk the fields to sow,
casting their seed in tears, will one
day tread those same long rows,
amazed by what's appeared. Those
who weep as they walk and plant
with sighs will return singing with
joy, when they bring home the
harvest."
Psalm 126:5-6 (VOICE)



TALK IT OVER TOGETHER

Looking back over the last year, what are a couple of ways you've seen the goodness of God in your life? What kind of impact did this have on you?

As you look forward to 2023, what do you want to see different about this year? What are the places of growth and restoration you are praying for?

JOINING GOD'S RESTORING WORK



1 Thessalonians 5:11 says, "*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*" It's been a hard couple of years for so many of us. Heading into the new year, we *all* could use words of encouragement and hope! This week, make a plan: intentionally encourage 3 people with words to build them up in love.

GIVE, FIND COMMUNITY, AND TAKE THE NEXT STEP.
VISIT RESTORATIONLEX.COM/THISWEEK



SEE OTHER SIDE



FOR THE JOY

MY 2023 JOY CHECKLIST!

"You direct me on the path that leads to a beautiful life. As I walk with You, the pleasures are never-ending, and I know true joy and contentment."

Psalm 16:11 (VOICE)

PURSuing JOY IS INTENTIONAL. WHAT ARE 5 THINGS I WANT TO DO THIS YEAR TO EXPERIENCE MORE JOY?



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WE SAY "NO" TO _____ SO WE CAN SAY "YES" TO JOY. WHAT KEEPS ME FROM EXPERIENCING JOY? WHAT DO I NEED TO LEAVE BEHIND?

JOY AND REST GO HAND IN HAND. HOW CAN I BETTER REST, RECOVER, AND RECEIVE THE JOY OF THE LORD IN THE YEAR AHEAD?

WE EXPERIENCE MORE JOY TOGETHER THAN WE CAN ON OUR OWN. WHO CAN I SHARE JOY WITH MORE INTENTIONALLY THIS YEAR?

OUR JOY IS MULTIPLIED WHEN WE SERVE OTHERS. HOW CAN I GENEROUSLY GIVE MY TIME AND RESOURCES AS A WITNESS TO JOY?