

Celebrate the work God has done in you and repeat! Keep going! God's not done with His work in you.

WEEK 6 CHALLENGE REJOICE & REPEAT

We have five days left in our "40 Days of Hope Challenge." These last five days will be centered around rejoicing! Celebrate God's work in your life. Take time to revel in the power of Almighty God to work in you to will and act according to His purposes (Phil. 2:13)! His work is not finished, though, so don't stop here. Celebrate and then repeat.

This does not mean that you need to continue with these particular 40 days of challenges and activities, but continue waiting on the Lord, pursuing Him, seeking the Lord in prayer, filling your mind with truth, and sharing hope with others. These kinds of spiritual disciplines practiced regularly can change the trajectory of your life, because when you change your thoughts by filling your mind with truth, it changes your thought patterns and your belief system, which changes your words and actions, which changes your decisions and relationships, which changes your life. Continue to pursue Christ. Your desire for Him will only grow and your life will never be the same.

Also, continue to meet together! We NEED each other. We were not meant to go this journey alone. We were meant to live in community with others, to bear one another's burdens, and uplift and encourage each other in the faith.

DAY 1: STILLNESS & WAITING

Today is our day of stillness and quiet to enjoy God's presence. He is with you today. Sit with Him, even if just for 5-10 minutes.

Enjoy the stillness and simply sitting with God, your Heavenly Father, who loves spending time with you. If you are outside, gaze at the nature surrounding you and reflect on the fact that creation sings God's praises. You can join with creation and bring glory to God simply by enjoying Him in this moment and worshipping Him with your life (by placing Him first).

DAY 2: WORDS OF TRUTH & PRAYER

I Peter 1:8-9 — "Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls."

Psalm 47:1 — "Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy."

Prayer:

"Heavenly Father, I am in awe of who You are, how You have worked throughout history, the great things you have done in others, and Your kindness expressed to me by choosing to work in my life. Thank you for the relationship I have with You, for the love You show to me that I do not deserve, and for the joy that You give to me when I seek You for my true hope in the present and for the future. I rejoice in the great things you have done! Help me to praise You daily and to live in such a way that I honor You in the way that I live. I am filled with joy in the knowledge of your presence with me and power in me. Amen."

DAY 3: DIGGING DEEPER

What is one thing you can do this week to celebrate God's work in your life these past 40 days? Find a day to celebrate this mile marker in your journey and rejoice in how God is changing and molding you to be more like Himself.

Ideas:

- Do something special one day this week with your family, a close friend, or an accountability partner to commemorate this mile marker in your faith journey. It could be a special meal together, meeting for coffee, or even a phone call to share your story and celebrate God's work in your lives.
- Spend some time worshipping God in your home, singing, playing an instrument, or praying with a heart of celebration and worship.
- Go for a hike or a walk enjoying God's creation or even just sit outside and ponder God's goodness, His kindness to you, and the joy that He offers.
- Have a special celebration night with your small group or discipleship group. Share your stories with each other, encourage each other, and pray together.

DAY 4: MIDWEEK ACCOUNTABILITY

Now that you have decided how you will celebrate this "WIN" in your spiritual journey, decide what your next step will be. Perhaps you would like to be more involved in the local church. Find a place to grow and to serve.

Ideas for your next step:

- Join a discipleship group or find someone to mentor you.
- Join a small group, Bible study, or Sunday school class.
- Sign up for the church's Growth Track.
- Find a way to use your gifts in the church to participate in God's work in your church family and the community.
- Find an organization in your community where you can serve and offer hope to others.
- Set a goal for yourself to memorize scripture, read through a book of the Bible, or start a Bible study for your devotional time.

Share with a close friend, mentor, or accountability partner what you have chosen as your next step.

DAY 5: WRITTEN PRAYER

Write a prayer to God praising Him and rejoicing in His work. Commit
to Him your future. Share with Him your desire to continue releasing
your grip on the things of this world, so that you can seek Him alone for
your hope.