

Closing the series of Lent group meetings - led by Ray Stanyon

*"Be full of joy in the Lord always. I will say again, be full of joy. Let everyone see that you are gentle and kind. The Lord is coming soon"*

Philippians 4: 4 - 5

Thoughts you might want to consider after the Bible study meeting:

+ What joys did you experience this week for which you would like to give God praise?

Karen Smith March 2021

## Seeds of Hope



Lent Bible Study Group 2021

Session 5: *Joy is coming soon*

Fleet URC & Beacon Hill URC

## **Seeds of Hope Lent Group**

Week 5: Monday March 29th 2021    *Joy is coming soon*

Welcome & Prayer led by Karen

Introduction to today

- What is joy? And in the Bible?

From the verses below, what are some reasons for Christians to rejoice?

- Matthew 5:12
- Luke 10:20
- John 16:22
- Romans 5:2
- Romans 5:3
- Romans 5:11

Scripture text:        Philippians 1

- What are the three sources of, or reasons for, joy in verses 4, 25 and 26 of this first chapter of Philippians?

When have you been gut-wrenchingly sad, but also known a deep inexplicable joy?    What is the source of that joy?

Easter is approaching – how and why should we rejoice?

*A seed of hope*

A prayer by Terry Hinks from *Praying the Way*

Mark 4: 1 -20

*And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold. v.20*

Seed of grace, Word of life  
deep within us,  
be warmed by the Great Sun;  
be watered by the Great Spirit;  
be nurtured by the Great Shepherd.

Seed of grace, Word of life,  
do not let your hope be taken from us;  
do not let our joy in you evaporate;  
do not let love for you be choked by self - concern.

Seed of grace, Word of life,  
bear a great harvest in hearts open to your goodness,  
to lives touched and healed and changed,  
multiplying your bounty again and again,  
until your kingdom comes.