

## February 6 Adult Spiritual Growth Class Synopsis

### *Anxious for Nothing: Chapter 2: Rejoice in the Lord's Sovereignty*

**How would you define God's sovereignty?**

**What do you think rejoicing in the Lord's sovereignty means?**

**How does trusting in God's sovereignty affect the way you perceive and live life's trials?**

The sovereignty of God is His perfect control and governing over all things. God works in and through every detail of His creation to accomplish His divine purpose. We have the incredible privilege to be a part of His Perfect Plan. To Rejoice in the Lord, we must have a deep belief in His Sovereignty over our lives. The more we believe in His control, the more we are able to relinquish our control, abating our anxiety in all things.

Our soul finds peace in praise of the Lord God Almighty whose Glory reigns supreme over His creation and every detail of the universe (*Isaiah 6:3*). We find assurance in the permanence of God's sovereignty knowing that *everything God does will last forever (Ecclesiastes 3:14)*. We find refuge in the power of God's sovereignty expressed in *Psalms 121:2: My help comes from the Lord, the maker of Heaven and Earth*. We celebrate and glorify our God, who is unlike any other, for He has declared the end, even at the beginning, and will accomplish His purpose and fulfill His intentions (*Isaiah 46:9-10*). He is making all things new – this we know for His Word is trustworthy and true (*Revelation 21:5*).

We can rejoice in God's great sovereignty, which is enacted according to who He is. God is love, just, holy, pure, merciful, good, true, wise, faithful, trustworthy, personal, and perfect. Out of God's great love, He reconciles all of humanity back to Him through His Son and our Savior Jesus Christ (*John 3:16*). *He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time (2 Timothy 1:9)*.

We can rejoice in God's great sovereignty – united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for He chose us in advance, and He makes everything work out according to His plan. (*Ephesians 1:11*) Being the same yesterday and today and forever, Jesus Christ is unchanging and unchangeable (*Hebrews 13:8*). No sin, distress, or complication will cause Him to abandon us. His love is constant giving full confidence that "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion" (*Philippians 1:6*).

Jesus tells his disciples that "*with God all things are possible.*" (*Matthew 19:26*) It is in everything that God makes possible his perfect plan. God works in and through the perceived impossibility to repent, to believe, to be saved, to trust when all seems uncertain, to know His presence when we feel alone, to know His peace in the midst of turmoil, to find that His grace is sufficient when nothing else is, to hope when all is hopeless, to humble oneself in the tide of pride, to rejoice in the Lord when there only seems sorrow, to live in the Lord when life seems to be lost.

The Apostle Paul, who lived a life of suffering, praise and gratitude for Christ Jesus, says "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice." Even in life's trials and tribulations, he writes to the Philippian faithful

from prison, *“now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ.” (Philippians 1:12-13)* Paul’s sufferings and loss for the Gospel were abundant. *(2 Corinthians 11:23-33)*. Yet Paul writes, *“Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake, I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ...” (Philippians. 3:8)*

So, we are to trust and rejoice in God’s sovereignty and perfect plan: “He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people’s disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. In that day they will say, “Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.” (Isaiah 25:8-9)

A song to reflect and pray on:

[Fernando Ortega - I will praise Him, still - YouTube](#)

## Looking ahead – Sunday February 13

Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World

Section 1: Celebrate God's Goodness

Chapter 3 – Rejoice in the Lord's Mercy