

DAY OF RENEWAL CONSECRATION SERVICE 1977

Theme: HAPPINESS IS ...

Opening Song: Happiness Is the Lord

Leader: In this concluding moment of our fellowship today, we recall the theme around which our activities have centered "Happiness Is..." Let us now read alternately Matthew 5:3-12 from which we took our theme. [Good News for Modern Man]

Leader: Happy are those who know they are spiritually poor;

Group: The kingdom of Heaven belongs to them!

Leader: Happy are those who mourn,

Group: God will comfort them!

Leader: Happy are the meek

Group: They will receive what God has promised.

Leader: Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires.

Group: God will satisfy them fully!

Leader: Happy are those who show mercy to others

Group: God will show mercy to them.

Leader: Happy are the pure in heart

Group: They will see God!

Leader: Happy are those who work for peace among men:

Group: God will call them his sons!

Leader: Happy are those who suffer persecution because they do what God requires

Group: The kingdom of God belongs to them!

Leader: Happy are you when men insult you and mistreat you and tell all kinds of evil lies against you because you are my followers.

Group: Rejoice and be glad because a great reward is kept for you in heaven. This is how men mistreated the prophets who lived before you.

Leader: Let us pray:

"O God our Father, we rejoice in your gift to us...your only begotten son, Jesus Christ our Lord. We thank you for the lesson for our lives that He has given to us in the beatitudes. We pray for the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives which will enable us to live as happy, peace-filled Christians and help us to pass this happiness on to those around us. Keep our hearts and minds open to your ever present mercy so that we may grow in our love and devotion to you and your way."

Group: "Amen...so be it"

Leader: We confess that too often our happiness has depended upon the accumulation of worldly goods, and our relationships with our family and friends.

Group: Forgive us, Lord, and help us from this day onward to gain true happiness from the study of your word and the living of a Christ-filled life.

Leader: We confess that we have not been bold in sharing our "Happiness Formula" with our neighbors, our friends, our families, our co-workers, and others whose lives touch ours.

Group: Forgive us, Lord, and help us from this day onward to share our faith with those around us, even the unlovely, that we may be carriers of happiness in Christ.

Leader: As we live out our days, one by one, in this year 1977, let us trust you to guide each day; let us take time in our busy schedules to listen for your voice; let us increase our commitment to you and consecrate our energies, talents, and abilities anew to you so that your will may be done.

Group: We do so commit our lives to you, O Father, and consecrate our energies, talents, and abilities to Thy Glory.

Leader: Let us close by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Group: Our Father....etc..

Closing Hymn: On our Way Rejoicing

Refrain: On our way rejoicing As we forward move,  
Hearken to our praises, O thou God of Love!

On our way rejoicing  
Gladly let us go;  
Conquered hath our Leader,  
Vanquished is the foe,  
Christ without, our safety;  
Christ within, our joy;  
Who, if we be faithful,  
Can our hope destroy?

If with honest hearted  
Love for God and man,  
Day by day thou find us  
Doing what we can,  
Thou who giv'st the seed time  
Wilt give large increase,  
Crown the head with blessings,  
Fill the heart with peace.

Unto God the Father  
Joyful songs we sing,  
Unto God the Saviour  
Thankful hearts we bring,  
Unto God the Spirit  
Bow we and adore,  
On our way rejoicing  
Now and evermore. Amen.

Benediction: The Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious unto us; the Lord lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace. Amen.

Leader: Depart to Serve!!!!