**JOHN 16:21-22**

**8-21-19**

**Intro – In Our Last Lesson, The Recent Reversal Of The Disciples’ Hopes And Dreams For Their Future With Christ, Had Caused Them Tremendous Anguish And Great Sorrow.**

**However, Jesus Stressed To His Disciples That Soon, Joy Would Replace The Anguish Of The Moment.**

**In Tonight’s Lesson, We Will Find That Jesus Reinforces His Point With A Short, Common, But Powerful Parable.**

**1. Who Can Give Us The Definition Of A Parable? (*An Illustration Using Familiar, Natural Examples, In Order To Teach A Spiritual Lesson*)**

**(Slide 2)**

What Is A Parable?

**2. V. 21 – Let’s Begin By One Of You Giving Us The Details Of The *Natural* Details Of Verse 21. Who Would Like To Do This?**

**3. Now, Who Would Like To Give Us The *Spiritual* Application/Lesson Of This Parable For The Disciples?**

**4. There Is No Doubt That Women Suffer Greatly In Childbirth. In Many Parts Of The World – Even Today – It Is Common That Large Numbers Of Women Still Die In Childbirth.**

**(Slide 3 – Chart)**

**5. As We Might Imagine, In Jesus’ Day, The Pain, And The Dangers Of Childbirth, Were Much Greater Than Typically Experienced In Our Country Today.**

**6. With This Fact In Mind, Why Would Jesus Use This Particular Illustration To Make His Point To The Disciples?**

**(Slide 4)**

The Is No Natural Illustration That Can Demonstrate The Contrast – The Distance – The Span - Between What The Disciples Were Feeling Then, And What They Would Soon Experience, Like The Contrast Between The Unbelievable Pain Of Childbirth And The Incredible Joy When The Child Is Born!

**7. This Great Chasm Between Suffering For The Sake Of Christ; And The Joy That Comes Afterward, Is Not Something To Be Experienced Only By The Disciples. This Is An Illustration That Is Relevant To All Of God’s People. (*Romans 8:18* - Discuss)**

**8. This Brings Us, Out Of The Days Of The Disciples And The Days Of Paul, To Our Lives, Today. This Illustration Of Labor And The Pains Of Childbirth Can Be A Reminder To Us That Our Troubles *Don’t Last Always*!**

**(Slide 5)**

**…**Weeping May Endure For A Night, But Joy *Cometh* In The Morning.

Psalms 30:5

**9. V. 22a – Jesus Again, Gives His Sorrowful Disciples A Word Of Encouragement. This Time, However, He Does Not Speak In Theological Terms, Mysterious Terms, Or Mystical Terms. He Speaks In Lovely And Affectionate Terms. What Does Jesus Give Them As A Promise? (*He Would See Them Again*!)**

**10. I May Be Stretching My *Spirit-Filled* Imagination, But It *Feels* As Though There Is Significance In The Fact That Jesus Does Not Say That They Will “See *Him* Again” (Although They Will). That Seems A More Natural Statement In Light Of There Grief Over His Leaving Them. Yet, Jesus Says…**

**(Slide 6)**

“I Will See You Again”

**11. What Does It Mean To You, To Know That God “Sees” You? (*Discuss*)**

**12. V. 22b – Jesus Makes Another, Most Remarkable - Most Amazing Promise. What Is It?**

**13. Think About This… In Crucifying Jesus…**

**(Slide 7)**

The Scribes/Pharisees Robbed Them Of Their Joy

The Jewish People Robbed Them Of Their Joy

Pilate Robbed Them Of Their Joy

The Roman Soldiers Robbed Them Of Their Joy

The Roman Government Robbed Them Of Their Joy

**14. Do “Men”/People, Rob Us Of Our Joy?**

**15. Who Are The People That Rob Us Of Our Joy? (*Discuss)***

**16. Acts 5:40-41 Is The Proof!**