**Restore The Joy**

Pastor Ashley Daugherty

* Sometimes we are receiving blessings, but we are not even enjoying them because we are so busy. Our lives are cluttered that we end up complaining about blessings because we are too busy.

**“The one sown among thorns represents one who receives the message, but all of life’s busy distractions, his divided heart, and his ambition for wealth result in suffocating the kingdom message and it becomes fruitless.**

**(Matthew 13:22) TPT**

* It’s the soil which is the variable. It’s the soil that determines the fulness of the seed.

The thorny soil: If we are too busy we will be distracted.

* Our ambition for achievement can suffocate and kill the fruit in our lives.

When we are too busy, we can’t be a good steward of what we have. Our lives should be balanced when it comes to pace. Different seasons have different paces.

* You may have lost your joy because your life is too cluttered and we need to remember that the condition of our souls determine the harvest.
* We have to create intentional space to declutter our soul. If our soul is not a part of our calendar, we will get distracted and no fruit will come from our seasons. When we are too busy, we are not making time to sit at the feet of Jesus. It takes discernment to ask God to show us how to declutter, but it also takes surrender and discipline.
* We need to ask ourselves: Are we driven by a desire to please God? Or are we trying to keep an image of ourselves? Are we reaching for significance through our busyness? We should as God, “In this season, “what pleases You the most?”

**Commit your actions to the Lord, and your plans will succeed.**

**(Proverbs 16:3)**

* At any time no matter what we are doing, we can commit it to Him and He will lead and guide us. Whatever brought you to the situation or season you’re in, entrust it to The Lord!
* “Be still and know that I am God” means “stop and let Me be God!”

**THINGS THAT CLUTTER UP OUR LIVES**

1. Pleasing men
2. Following passions
3. Chasing fulfillment
4. Being consumed with what other people are doing
5. Fear of running out or of not having enough
6. The need to proof that we can do it