

September 5, 2010

Why Do Christians Feel So Bad About Feeling Good?

Guest Speaker: Gary Thomas

I. Making Ourselves Vulnerable

II. Suspicious of Pleasure

- A. 1 John 2:15-17
- B. James 4:4
- C. John 3:16
- D. James 1:17

Did God create this world to trap us, trip us up, and tempt us, i.e. as a moral obstacle course, or to nurture our faith, teach us how to worship Him, and enjoy the good things He has made?

III. God: Antagonist or Friend?

- A. John 15:15
- B. Romans 8:31
- C. David's Attitude

"The Lord be exalted, *who delights in the well-being of His servant.*" Psalm 35:27

"He [God] brought me out into a spacious place; He rescued me *because He delighted in me.*" 2 Samuel 22:20

IV. Humbly Accepting our Humanity

Dr. J.I. Packer: "Contempt for pleasure, so far from arguing superior spirituality, is actually... the sin of pride. Pleasure is divinely designed to raise our sense of God's goodness, deepen our gratitude to Him, and strengthen our hope of richer pleasures to come in the next world."

V. Applying the Power of Pleasure

Please feel free to visit Gary's website: www.garythomas.com. He is on Twitter (@garyLthomas) and Facebook (links provided on the website).

Continued...

I am interested in:

- Learning more about Island ECC
- Learning more about how to become a Christian
- Signing up for (events / class / care group)
- Volunteering
- Talking to church leader
- Membership
- Baptism
- Other

Sharing a comment with the church leaders

Today I attended the service at:
 9.30am 11.30am 5pm

On the:
 1st Floor 2nd Floor

TELL US ABOUT YOU

Thank you for worshipping with us today! Do you have a praise item or a prayer request? Do you want to learn more about how you can get connected at Island ECC? Please take a moment to complete **both** sides of this form and place it in the offering bag, or at a designated box on the 1st or 2nd floor.

Name _____

Mobile Number _____ Email _____

Praise / Prayer _____

If my praise / prayer request is shared publicly with the congregation at a Sunday service, please keep my name anonymous.