

Good morning, Church. Daily Reading, Acts 2.

Who doesn't like to plan and prepare for a trip? Get to go on a trip? See amazing scenery, make new friends, and have almost everything done for you? But honestly, in most cases, making it back home can be the best part of any trip?

While we had a great time on the cruise and really enjoyed our time away, having my grandson sit on my lap yesterday, look up at me and say, "I missed you, Papa" just melted my heart.

While there are many who try to run away from their troubles and woes, I find it is not the "who" or the "what" we seek that brings us the peace and comfort we long for, but the Savior we run to. Getting away and relaxing is fun and exciting, but learning to find peace, comfort, and rest in God is what brings us our greatest joy. To be able to look up to God and say, "I missed You," is what I believe brings God great joy. Not because God went away from us, but most likely, we turned our backs on Him and tried to find lasting joy in people and places, and not from being in the presence of the One who offers pure love and acceptance.

In my life, I have met some amazing people and have been fortunate enough to visit many places filled with natural and man-made beauty, but nothing can ever take the place of a simple, quiet moment of uninterrupted solitude in the presence of God.

Psalm 16:11 "You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever." (NLT)

Getting away is fun and exciting. It can be educational at times or a blessing to many when family and friends get together. But true joy can always be found in the presence of God, no matter where one is.

Get away? Yes. Explore and experience new places? Whenever possible. But don't try to substitute anything for finding joy in God's presence. Find joy in Jesus.