

62: SOMETIMES THE BEST HELP IS SIMPLY SHOWING UP

By John Leavy
In Week 13: Walking With Others

4 Min read



“Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.” — *Romans 12:15*

One of the things rarely discussed is that walking with another man isn't only about helping him through the hard seasons. It's just as important to celebrate the good ones. Most of us have no problem showing up when there's a crisis to solve. We like having an answer, offering advice, or helping carry the load. But Romans 12:15 calls us to something deeper: **“Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.”** That isn't simply kindness. It's the willingness to enter another person's life, whatever season they're walking through.

A trail teaches this better than most of us realize. Not every hiker experiences the same stretch of trail the same way. One man reaches the summit, celebrating a hard-earned victory. Another arrives exhausted, fatigued, barely catching his breath. A good trail partner doesn't expect both men to feel the same. He celebrates one without envy and

quietly walks beside the other without trying to rush him past the pain. He understands that people matter more than the miles.

Jesus walked that way. He rejoiced with those who celebrated, and He wept with those who mourned. He wasn't in a hurry to move people past their emotions or offer quick solutions. He was fully present in the moment they were living. That's one of the most overlooked marks of spiritual maturity. It's not simply knowing what to say. It's knowing when to celebrate, when to listen, and when to carry part of another person's burden without trying to fix it.

Discipleship isn't measured only by the truth we teach. It's revealed by the life we share. Sometimes the greatest gift you can offer another man is simply your presence as you walk the trail together, one season at a time.

APPLICATION

One of the things rarely discussed is how easily conversations become about us. A man shares an answered prayer, and before long, we're talking about our own story. Another opens up about a difficult season, and we're already searching for advice instead of listening. Romans 12 calls us to something far different. It calls us to step into another person's journey before asking them to step into ours.

That kind of relationship reveals what's happening in our own hearts. Another man's success has a way of exposing comparisons we didn't know existed. His promotion, restored marriage, or growing ministry can quietly uncover pride or a need for recognition. On the other hand, another man's suffering exposes whether we're willing to slow our pace for someone who can no longer keep up. The trail has a way of revealing what comfort often conceals.

Walking with another man means refusing to disappear when the trail becomes difficult. It means showing up when there is no easy answer. It means celebrating the promotion, standing beside the hospital bed, applauding the baptism, or simply sitting in silence when words would only get in the way. Most men don't need someone to explain every turn in the trail. They need someone who is willing to walk it with them.

Long after the conversations are forgotten, men remember who stayed on the trail. They remember who didn't rush ahead, who didn't walk away when the climb became steep, and who faithfully stayed beside them one step at a time. That's the kind of presence Jesus modeled, and it's the kind of presence that allows discipleship to take root and grow over a lifetime.

LIVE IT OUT

This week, step into another man's journey. Celebrate his victory as if it were your own or quietly walk beside him through a difficult stretch of trail. Don't feel the need to have the right words or the perfect solution. Your presence may accomplish more than your advice

ever could. Some of the most meaningful steps in discipleship are taken when one man simply refuses to let another walk the trail alone.

PRAY THIS...

“Lord, help me to be more sensitive to another man’s needs, to know when to listen and when to speak.”

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Practice builds the man.***

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