

I BELIEVE
IN GOD
BUT...

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I JUST WANNA
HAVE FUN

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INTRODUCTION

Pastor John explains a common misconception about Christians in his message "I Believe in God, but I Just Wanna have Fun." For one reason or another, many people have arrived at the conclusion God and fun are incompatible, yet God actually created us with fun in the design! He is not against fun but against it becoming our purpose. The boundaries God gives us are not to rob us of fun but for our own good. His laws aren't to drain the fun out of life but so fun doesn't drain the life out of us.

DISCUSSION

1. Write down your current definition of the word "fun." How has this definition changed as you have grown in your faith? How could different perceptions of fun affect a person's ideas about church? About God?
2. **Read 2 Samuel 6:14, Psalm 100 and Psalm 104:31.** King David danced before the Lord, the psalmists gave thanks and sang and celebrated the Creator. How can we demonstrate this kind of fun in our Christian walk?
3. Give an example of one person you know, either from experience or social media, who chose fun as the purpose of his/her life. What does that look like? How does that affect the relationships in one's life? **Read 1 John 2:15-17.** How can "fun drain the life out of us"?
4. **Read 1 John 5:3-5.** How do these verses explain God's commandments, His rules? How are they boundaries for our lives?

DO SOMETHING

1. As a group, brainstorm a fun activity for the spring, such as a picnic, potluck, game night, etc. Invite others who may not be comfortable with attending church because of misconceptions about God and fun.
2. Take time this week to enjoy God through worship, dancing, writing, walking in nature or whatever brings you joy. Determine to show others in your circle the joy you have in your faith walk!
3. Read through some of the Psalms, such as 100 or others that rejoice in the Lord. Journal about what the Lord reveals to you about fun.

RESOURCES

1. In his video series *Life Rules* on [RightNow Media](#), Andy Stanley explains God's set of life rules that can improve current relationships and mend broken ones.
2. Ken Shigematsu, in his book *God in My Everything: How an Ancient Rhythm Helps Busy People Enjoy God*, explains how the time-tested spiritual practice of the "rule of life" can help bring busy people into a closer relationship with God. He shows how a personal rule of life can fit almost any vocation or life situation.
3. Check out *The Very Best, Hands-On, Kinda Dangerous Family Devotions: 52 Activities Your Kids Will Never Forget* by Tim Shoemaker. "These...unforgettable object lessons (along with nearly fifty others) are not only more fun than other family devotions - they actually deliver the spiritual impact you desire for your kids. So put away the flannelgraph, get out the safety goggles, and start bringing the truths of Scripture to vivid life in your household. Just remember to change out of your Sunday clothes first."