

Sermon Notes | 12th October 2025 | The Well Community Church – Indian Service

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Welcome to The Well Community Church – Indian Service. I hope you are all doing well by the grace of God. As we continue our series this month called “**TEARS,**” let’s dig in and learn from God.

TEARS TO CHEERS

(Psalm 126:1–6)

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.” The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Restore our fortunes, Lord, like streams in the Negev. Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.

Dear brothers and sisters, today we continue our series called **TEARS**. In this journey, we have learned that tears are not a sign of weakness but a sign of deep faith. When you cry before God, you are not falling apart—you are falling into His arms. Today, we are learning from Psalm 126, a psalm that begins in sorrow and ends in singing. It shows us the path from **tears to cheers**, from pain to praise, from weeping to rejoicing.

Psalm 126 was written when the people of Israel returned home from exile in Babylon. For seventy years they were far from their land, far from the temple, far from their songs. They cried by the rivers of Babylon, remembering Zion. But one day, God kept His promise. He opened the way, and His people came home. This psalm is their song of joy after the tears. It teaches us that what God did for them, He still does for us today.

1. GOD CAN TURN YOUR CAPTIVITY INTO A DREAM COME TRUE

The psalm begins with these words: *“When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed.”* Imagine that moment. They never thought they would see Jerusalem again. They never thought the chains would break. Then one day, freedom came, and they said, “This feels like a dream.”

Have you ever experienced something so good that you said, “I cannot believe this is real”? That is what happens when God steps in.

When the Lord restores, He does it so beautifully that it feels unreal. The people had been crying for years, but in one moment, God turned it all around. That is what God can do in your life. He can turn the hardest season into the sweetest memory. What you once called pain, He will call purpose.

When God restores, it is not halfway restoration—it is full. He brings joy where there was despair, healing where there was hurt, and peace where there was pain.

The psalm says, *“Then our mouths were filled with laughter, and our tongues with songs of joy.”* The same mouths that once cried were now laughing. The same eyes that once wept were now shining with joy. This is the power of our God.

And notice what happens next. The nations around them saw it and said, *“The Lord has done great things for them.”* When God blesses His people, the world notices. Your joy becomes your testimony. Your laughter becomes your witness. The way you rejoice after pain will make others say, “Surely the Lord has done great things.”

Then the people answered, *“The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad.”* They turned their praise back to God. That is important—when God restores you, always give Him the glory. Gratitude completes the miracle.

2. GOD CAN SEND RIVERS INTO YOUR DESERT

In verse four, the psalmist prays, *“Restore our fortunes, Lord, like streams in the Negev.”* The Negev was a desert in the south of Israel. For most of the year, it was dry, cracked, and empty. But when the rain came, the dry riverbeds would suddenly fill with rushing water. Flowers would bloom, and the desert would come alive again.

The psalmist was saying, “Lord, make our lives like that. Send Your rain. Turn our dry places into rivers again.”

Maybe you have felt like you are in a desert. Your prayers feel dry, your faith feels dry, your joy feels dry. But the same God who sends rain to the desert can pour His Spirit into your life again.

Sometimes we think joy comes only when everything is perfect, but the truth is that joy comes when God flows into our dryness. You may be in a waiting season, but do not lose heart. The rain will come. The streams will flow again. God will restore what seems dead.

3. GOD USES TEARS TO WATER THE SEEDS OF YOUR FUTURE

Now we come to verse five, the heart of this psalm: *"Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy."* This is a promise, not just poetry.

The farmer in Israel would go out with his last handful of seed during a hard year. He would cry as he scattered it because that was all he had left. But he trusted that God would send rain, and one day the harvest would come.

Tears are not wasted. They are like drops of water on the seeds of your faith. When you cry before God, you are not losing—you are planting. Your pain is planting something. Your waiting is planting something. Every tear that falls in prayer is a seed of future joy.

Psalm 56:8 says that God keeps our tears in a bottle. That means He sees them, He values them, and He remembers them. Not one tear goes unnoticed. Every single one becomes part of your harvest.

4. GOD PROMISES JOY AFTER FAITHFULNESS

Verse six continues: *"Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them."*

The same person who went out crying will come back singing. The same one who planted in pain will gather in joy.

This verse shows the faithfulness of God. You may be walking through a painful time now, but it will not last forever. The tears will not always flow. The night will not last forever. Joy is coming. There will be a day when you look back and say, "That is what God was doing all along."

OBJECT LESSON — SEEDS AND TEARS

I am holding a jar of water. This water represents tears. These are the tears of prayer, the tears of waiting, the tears of disappointment. Sometimes all we can do is cry before the Lord.

I am holding some seeds. These seeds represent our faith. They look small and ordinary, but they carry life inside. When we sow our faith in prayer and obedience, God watches over it.

As the water touches the seeds, it reminds us that our tears water the ground of God's promise. The things we cry about today may become the very places where joy grows tomorrow.

And here is a small plant. It is alive and green. It reminds us of what happens after the tears. The seed grows. The harvest comes. The songs return. This is what Psalm 126 means: those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. What begins with tears ends with life and celebration. God turns tears into cheers.

5. FROM TEARS TO CHEERS — OUR GOD IS FAITHFUL

Psalm 126 begins in sorrow and ends in singing. It starts with captivity and ends with celebration. That is the story of every believer who trusts God. He turns mourning into dancing and gives songs in the night.

If you are crying today, remember that your tears are temporary, but God's promise is permanent. The psalm says you will "doubtless" come again rejoicing. That means the harvest is sure. You may not see it yet, but joy is on the way.

Every tear that falls in faith becomes part of your testimony. When you come through this season, you will not only have joy—you will have a story. God will use your journey to help someone else find hope.

And remember, Jesus Himself walked this same road. In the Garden of Gethsemane, He prayed with tears. On the cross, He cried out to the Father. But on the third day, He rose again with victory and joy. Because of His tears, we now have everlasting cheers.

MISSIONARY STORY — SUSAN

Let me share a story about a missionary named Susan. Susan grew up with a desire to serve God among people who had never heard the gospel. She went to a small village in Southeast Asia. The people there were poor, and many believed in idols. At first, they would not even let her speak. They thought she was a stranger who could bring bad luck. She lived alone in a small hut, learned their language, and started caring for their children.

Susan often sat by herself at night and cried. She cried because she missed her family. She cried because no one wanted to listen. She cried because she was sick and had little food. But every time she cried, she prayed. She said, "Lord, use these tears to water this land."

Months passed. One evening, a terrible storm came. The river flooded, and several huts were swept away. Susan helped rescue a family trapped in the water. The villagers saw her risking her life to save them. After the storm, they began to trust her. She taught their children to read, cared for the sick, and spoke to them about Jesus.

Years later, the same people who once rejected her built a small church in the village. Susan stood with them on the day of dedication. The people sang and danced with joy. Susan looked at the crowd and said, "I once cried every night here, but God turned my tears into joy."

Her story is Psalm 126 come to life. She sowed in tears, but she reaped with songs of joy. What began in sorrow ended in celebration. God turned her tears into cheers.

Dear brothers and sisters, maybe you are in your sowing season. Maybe you are praying and not seeing answers yet. Maybe you are carrying pain in your heart that no one else understands. Remember this promise: those who sow in tears will reap in joy. The same God who restored Zion will restore you. The same God who turned Susan's tears into songs will do the same for you.

Keep trusting. Keep sowing. Keep believing. Your story will not end in tears—it will end in cheers. The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad.

May the Lord bless you richly. Amen.