



**Sermon Title:** "Serve the Lord with Gladness"

**Scripture:** Acts 5:12-42

Pastor Stephen Schultze

Sunday, November 22, 2020

**Introduction:** *Psalm 100:1-3*

At the center of joyless service is a proud heart.

At the center of glad service is a \_\_\_\_\_ heart. (*Psalm 2:11*)

**What do we learn about the Apostles rejoicing?** (*v. 41-42*)

**1. Their gladness was stimulated by \_\_\_\_\_ to their service.** (*v. 41a*)

- Your mouth \_\_\_\_\_ what your heart worships. (*Luke 6:45*)

**2. Their gladness was shared in the \_\_\_\_\_ of fellow servants.** (*v. 41b; Ephesians 5:20; Thessalonians 5:16-18*)

*"When large numbers of people share their joy in common, the happiness of each is greater because each adds fuel to the other's flame." Augustine*

**3. Their gladness was rooted in their \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.** (*v. 41c*)

- It is an honor to be \_\_\_\_\_ for our association with the Suffering Savior. (*1 Peter 4:13-14; Philippians 1:29; Matthew 5:10-12*)

**4. Their gladness fueled continual boldness and \_\_\_\_\_ in service.** (*v. 42; Romans 12:1*)

**Conclusion:** Joyful service to our Savior is not only a beautiful expression of love to God, but also a powerful \_\_\_\_\_ to the world! (*Philippians 2:14-15*)

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**Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application:**

- How is glad service to God an act of worship?
- In what ways did the Apostles experience opposition?
- What is surprising about the account of the angelic prison escape?
- Why is it important that we rejoice together with other believers?
- How does our identity in Christ yield the fruit of gladness when we face opposition?
- What does your mouth reveal about your heart when you face difficulty in service to Jesus?