

## **I'm (not) Fine**

Pastor David Uth

### **Passage: Romans 15:13**

**ESV:** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

**NIV:** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**NKJV:** Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **Background**

On this Mother's Day, there is no better way to encourage the women who mean the most to us than to remind them of the great hope we all have in Jesus. Near the end of Paul's letter to the church at Rome, he closes a section with a short, but powerful prayer of hope. Paul reminds the believers at Rome, who faced persecution and societal isolation, that as they continue to follow Jesus, God would FILL them with so much joy in the sadness and peace in the persecution so that their HOPE would OVERFLOW as the Holy Spirit worked in their lives and situations. What a promise! What a Savior! We pray that all of our beloved women in our church will rest in this wonderful promise!

### **Service Notes**

## Instructions

This discussion guide is to help you facilitate a conversation with your small group. The “Getting Started” section serves as a quick opener and introduction to the group conversation. In the “Talk it Over” section, feel free to use all or only some of the questions. Our hope is to have meaningful conversations around God’s Word, not simply answer all the questions. Finally, the “Live it Out” section is to help identify a specific next step. Use these questions as a guide to find practical ways to apply the passage to our everyday life.

## Getting Started

- In light of mother’s day, what is the greatest lesson your mother or another influential woman in your life has taught you? How can we pray for the mothers in our group today?

## Talk it Over

- **Read Romans 15:13.** What are the promises of this passage? What does Paul say God will fill the believers with? Why are joy and peace so important for believers walking through difficult circumstances? What is the responsibility of the believers in this passage? What exactly are we to keep “believing”? How do belief and hope work together? What areas of your life right now need to be FILLED with joy and peace from God? What is one promise of God’s Word that can speak to that area of your life right now?
- **Read Psalm 62.** How does the psalmist describe God in this passage? How does he describe his own situation? In what does the psalmist say he’s putting his hope? Why? What does the psalmist call his audience to do (vs. 8-10)? What are the reasons the psalmist is putting his hope in the Lord? What can we learn from this passage?
- What is one way you have experienced God’s promises to FILL us with JOY and PEACE as we continue to believe and follow him? How can we practically live with a more hopeful outlook this week?

## Live it Out

- What is one way you can encourage a friend in need this week?