

Blessed Boasting? #1

A word with no English equivalent! A concept modern life doesn't examine?

KAUCHESIS: the act of glorying, delighting, rejoicing or boasting in something.

This week we encounter a new concept that is very common in the Bible but not really discussed much in modern Australian life. *Kauchesis* is when we revel in something, relish it, we think of it and it makes us glow, it's thoughts, actions and words that glory in a thing. In the sermon Matt called it the "woo hoo" of the heart. It is also often translated 'boasting' because there are both positive and negative forms of verbal *kauchesis*!

We all have forms of *kauchesis* in our lives. This is normal and healthy. Perhaps it is part of what we were mad for. We all have things we delight in, glory in, that light us up, float our boat, that we dwell on and it feels good. We're all made up differently, so different things may 'light us up!'

**Remember a recent time you felt elated, energized, or had joy in something.
What was it? How did it feel? What did you do?**

What are some positive things you 'glory in' and get encouragement from?

What are some dangerous or negative things you might be tempted to 'glory in'?

**Reflect on and discuss the following Bible passages used in the sermon.
The ancient concept of *kauchesis* is underlined...**

2 Corinthians 11:19b

No one ... will ever stop me from boasting in this!

1 Thessalonians 2:19

What is our hope or joy or crown of boasting as we stand before our Lord Jesus when he returns?

James 4:13,16

Listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to that city and spend a year there and trade and make a profit" ... You boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Pray for each other!