

Have You Lost Your Joy?
Philippians 1:3-18
Guest Speaker Joseph Garcia

The Macedonian Call
Acts 16:6-25

25 But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them

John had it right when he said:

John 3:29-30

29 He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. **30** He must increase, but I *must* decrease.

Wiersbe points out 4 Joy thieves:

- 1. Circumstances:** **Php 1:12** But I want you to know, brethren, that the things *which happened* to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel,
- 2. People:** **Php 2:2** fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.
- 3. Things:** **Php 3:8** Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ
- 4. Worry:** **Php 4:6** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

Verse Breakdown:

Joy in Prayer 1-11

Paul was constantly thanking God for other believers:

Romans 1:8-9

8 First, **I thank my God** through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. **9** For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers,

1 Corinthians 1:4

4 I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus,

1 Thessalonians 2:13

13 For this reason we also **thank God** without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

Philemon 1:4

4 I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers

Ephesians 1:16

16 do not cease to **give thanks for you**, making mention of you in my prayers

Where can I find Christian Joy?

John 15:9-12

9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. **10** If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. **11** "These things I have spoken to you, **that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.** **12** This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Luke 2:10-11

10 Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, **I bring you good tidings of great joy** which will be to all people. **11** For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Galatians 5:22

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**, peace, long suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Psalms 30:4-5

4 Sing praise to the LORD, you saints of His, And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name. **5** For His anger *is but for* a moment, His favor *is for* life; Weeping may endure for a night, **But joy comes in the morning.**

Psalms 16:11

11 You will show me the path of life; **In Your presence is fullness of joy**; At Your right hand *are pleasures* forevermore.

Philippians 4:4

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, **rejoice!**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, **18** in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Good Work

Philippians 2:11-13

12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; **13** for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.

Gods work of Salvation has a threefold approach:

- 1. The work God does for us- Redemption**
- 2. The work God does in us-Sanctification**
- 3. The work God does through us- Service**

Romans 9:3

3 For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh,

1 John 3:14

14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love *his* brother abides in death.

Fruit of righteousness

James 3:17-18

John 15:4-6

Closing Application:

Have you lost your Joy?

Pray for and with others

Pray for others and find someone to pray with.

Study the word

Find references in the bible referring to Joy and study them.

Share with others

Find others who are joyful and fellowship with them.