

## Philippians 4:1-4 - Rejoice in the LORD Always

September 24, 2023 - Pastor Jarrod Stueve

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*Philippians 3:12-14*

*Romans 8:1*

*John 15:5*

1) Joy as a feeling of great \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ *Philippians 1:18, 2:28-29*

2) Christian Joy is found in what Jesus has \_\_\_\_\_, is  
\_\_\_\_\_, and promises to \_\_\_\_\_ - rather than in your  
temporary circumstances. *Hebrews 13:8, 6:19-20a NIV*  
*Psalms 16:11, Isaiah 61:10, Hebrews 11:24-26, James 1:2-4*

3) You can have joy amidst \_\_\_\_\_ when you  
view your present circumstances through the lens of  
\_\_\_\_\_. *1 Thessalonians 4:13, John 11:25-26*

4) We can simultaneously \_\_\_\_\_ and rejoice.  
*2 Corinthians 6:10*

5) My joy is connected to my \_\_\_\_\_ *Psalms 27:13-14*

### **Three Steps to Fight Joy-Killers**

- What \_\_\_\_\_ my joy? *Psalms 27:2-3, 10, 12*
- What \_\_\_\_\_ am I tempted to believe? *1 Samuel 27:1*
- What \_\_\_\_\_ of God can I \_\_\_\_\_ to?

*Psalms 27:1, 5-6, 10, 4, 13*

*2 Corinthians 5:17*

*John 16:33*

*Romans 8:31, 38-39*

*2 Corinthians 4:16-18*

*Romans 15:13*

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*Philippians 3:12-14*

*Romans 8:1*

*John 15:5*

1) Joy as a feeling of great **PLEASURE** and  
**HAPPINESS** *Philippians 1:18, 2:28-29*

2) Christian Joy is found in what Jesus has **DONE**, is  
**DOING**, and promises to **DO** - rather than in your  
temporary circumstances. *Hebrews 13:8, 6:19-20a NIV*  
*Psalms 16:11, Isaiah 61:10, Hebrews 11:24-26, James 1:2-4*

3) You can have joy amidst **SUFFERING** when you  
view your present circumstances through the lens of  
**ETERNITY**. *1 Thessalonians 4:13, John 11:25-26*

4) We can simultaneously **SORROW** and rejoice.  
*2 Corinthians 6:10*

5) My joy is connected to my **HOPE** *Psalms 27:13-14*

### **Three Steps to Fight Joy-Killers**

- What **THREATENS** my joy? *Psalms 27:2-3, 10, 12*
- What **LIES** am I tempted to believe? *1 Samuel 27:1*
- What **TRUTH** of God can I **CLING** to?

*Psalms 27:1, 5-6, 10, 4, 13*

*2 Corinthians 5:17*

*John 16:33*

*Romans 8:31, 38-39*

*2 Corinthians 4:16-18*

*Romans 15:13*

8) In light of these pressures, what lies are you tempted to believe? (*Give at least three*)

9) What promises of God or scriptures can you cling to? What truth protects you from those lies? (*Give at least 3*)

What can you do this week to *cling* to those truths? What practical steps can you take to rejoice in the Lord?

10) Read the following passage. What do you think it means to “draw water from the wells of salvation”? How would you explain this to a child?

**Isaiah 12:2-3** - “[2] Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'For YAH, the LORD, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.' ” [3] Therefore with joy you will draw water From the wells of salvation.”

11) What do you most need to remember or put into practice from this week’s message or homework?

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶
- ▶
- ▶

## Life Group Homework For the week of September 24, 2023

### MY STORY

1) Who is the most *joyful* person you know? What makes them different from others?

### QUICK REVIEW

2) Read aloud Philippians 4:1-4.

3) What stood out to you from this passage or Sunday’s message? (Favorite point, favorite verse, questions, etc)

### DIGGING DEEPER

4) What do the following passages teach you about joy?

**John 15:11** - “*These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.*”

**Psalm 16:8-11** - “[8] I have set the LORD always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. [9] Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope. [10] For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. [11] You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”

**Habakkuk 3:17-19** - "[17] *Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls--* [18] *Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.* [19] *The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills.*"

**Nehemiah 8:10** - "Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.""

From these passages, and from Sunday's message, we learn that God wants us to rejoice - to be happy - in Him. What comes to mind when you hear that "God wants you to be happy"? Is it hard for you to agree with? Why or why not?

5) In the late 1800's, Horatio Spafford was a wealthy property owner, happily married, and had five children. Tragically, his only son died around 1871, around the same time his invested properties burned to the ground in the Great Chicago Fire. Shortly after, on a family vacation to Europe, the ship sunk, taking the lives of his four daughters. If you were in Horatio's position, what might be some of the lies that you would be tempted to believe? *(Try to come up with at least three)*

What are some truths and/or scriptures that you could cling to amidst such tragedy? *(Again, try to give at least three)*

After suffering these tragedies, Horatio Spafford wrote the hymn "It Is Well With My Soul". What stands out to you from the following selection from that hymn?

*When peace like a river, attendeth my way  
When sorrows like sea billows roll  
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say  
It is well, it is well, with my soul*

**(Chorus) It is well, With my soul  
It is well, it is well with my soul**

*Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come  
Let this blest assurance control  
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul (Chorus)*

*My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!  
My sin, not in part but the whole  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, o my soul! (Chorus)*

6) Often, when we are stressed, frustrated, or fearful, we turn to "earthly pleasures" to give us joy. Obviously, it's *always* wrong if we turn to sin. But is it wrong to seek joy from non-sinful, earthly blessings? Why or why not?

### GET PRACTICAL

7) What is threatening your joy right now in life?  
*(Give at least three examples)*