

Overcomer

Part 6: Joy

“Because of Jesus, you should have joy despite your circumstances.” – Philippians 4:1

Joy is a decision that you make each day when you wake up.

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!” – Philippians 4:4

“I have come that you may have life and that you may have it to the fullest (that you may have life and have it more abundantly. – KJV).” – John 10:10

Joy is the inner knowledge and outward expression that comes from peace and contentment.

“Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends.” – Philippians 4:1

The first ingredient for Joy is UNITY.

“I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to agree with each other in the Lord.” – Philippians 4:2

“Yes, and I ask you, loyal yokefellow, help these women who have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.” – Philippians 4:3

“Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” – Ephesians 4:26, 31-32

“Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.” – Philippians 4:5

The second ingredient for Joy is PRAYER.

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” – Philippians 4:6

Paul gives us a tip for overcoming worry and it sounds so simplistic, stop and pray.

“And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” – Philippians 4:7

The last ingredient for Joy is DISCERNMENT.

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.” – Philippians 3:16

“Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things.” – Colossians 3:2

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.” – James 1:2-3

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” – Matthew 5:11-12

Blessed – having a joy the world can’t take away.

“They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.” – Acts 5:40-41

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!” – Philippians 4:4

“Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.” – Acts 5:42

“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” – Hebrews 12:2

“Consider Jesus and what He endured so you don’t lose heart.” – Hebrews 12:3
