

Today's Theme

“More Journey To Joy”

Series Title

“Finding Joy In Life” Part 3

July 25, 2021

What It Takes To Have Consistent Joy

1. We need to *focus* on God with difficulties.

View Difficulties & Problems Like Paul Did

- (1) Allow *challenges* to reveal the *bigger* picture.
- (2) Allow *problems* to produce *impact* for God.
- (3) Allow *difficulty* to develop my *trust* in God.

2. We need to *build* better *priorities* in life.

Priorities That Lead To Joy

- (1) When we *hear* criticism yet *not* controlled by it.
- (2) When we *celebrate* & *value* love.
- (3) When we *try* to put God *first* in all things.
- (4) When we *refuse* to allow things to *steal* joy.

3. We need to lean on God's *power* in life.

How God Offers This Power

(1) Through the *prayers* of people.

Phil 1:19 for I know that through your prayers . . . what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.

(2) Through God's *Holy Spirit* in us.

Phil 1:19 for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.

1 Cor 3:16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?
John 14:26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

(3) Through *hope placed* in the right place.

Phil 1:20 I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

Acts 27:25 So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me.

When *My Hope* Is In The Right Place

1. It produces a life *filled* with *forgiveness*.
2. It produces a life *full* of *courage*.
3. It produces a life that *honors* God.

4. We need to be *loved* by someone.

The *Truth* About The Life We Live

(1) We can't do life *alone* and have *joy*.

Ps 53:1 The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."
Eph 2:12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

(2) We need someone to *help* carry *burdens*.

Matt 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

(3) We need someone to *love* us no matter *what*.

Matt 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

(4) Only one thing can *never* be *taken* away: God.

Phil 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.
Hebrews 13:5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."