

Today's Theme

“Round 3 - Joy Safe”

Series Title

“Finding Joy In Life” Part 17

November 21, 2021

What's needed to safeguard my joy?

1. **Beware** of those who would *steal* our joy.
2. **Stay true** to the *foundation* of our joy.
3. **Don't** be sidetracked by *religious* activity.
4. **Remain** *focused* on Jesus in life.

How To Keep Our Attention Focused

1. **Allow** Jesus to *change* us.
2. **Replace** my righteousness with *God's*.
3. **Experience** the *power* of Jesus in my life.

Phil 3:10 I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection . . .

(1) The power to *produce* the fruit of the spirit.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

(2) The power to say *no* to self & sin.

Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

(3) The power to say *yes* to serving God & others.

John 13:34 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

4. *Connect* with Jesus in our *suffering*.

Paul's Desire For us:

(1) To *handle* suffering *like* He did.

Phil 3:10 . . . and participation in his *sufferings*.

(2) To *entrust* my life & soul to the Father *fully*.

Phil 3:10 . . . becoming like him in his death, Romans 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope.

5. *Live* life with the *hope* of heaven.

What This Life Looks Like

Phil 3:11 and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

(1) *Live* with the *motivating hope* of my salvation.

Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” 13 When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

(2) *Live* with *joy* because of being *heaven* bound.

Hebrews 6:18 we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged. 19 We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, 20 where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever,