

“Finding the Secret of Joy”

Philippians 4:4-13

March 26, 2017

Galatians 5:22-23

Joy is a fruit of the Spirit

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control.

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice without worrying

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

5 Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

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.

Philippians 4:8-9

You are what you think

8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy-- meditate on these things.

9 The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:10-13

Be content whatever your circumstances

10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity.

11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:

12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

James 1:2-4

² My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. ⁴ But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Joy through Trials

1. Choose Joy. Joy is a choice, change your attitude!
2. Don't worry, pray and thank Him!
3. Fill your mind with positive things !
4. Be content!

Psalm 16:11

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

The ABCs of Trials

Although things are not perfect
Because of trial or pain,
Continue in thanksgiving
Do not begin to blame.
Even when the times are hard,
Fierce winds are bound to blow;
God is forever able—
Hold on to what you know
Imagine life without His love;
Joy would cease to be.
Keep thanking Him for all the things
Love imparts to thee.
Move out of "Camp Complaining"—
No weapon that is known

The ABCs of Trials

O n earth can yield the power

P raise can do alone.

Q uit looking at the future,

R edeem the time at hand.

S tart every day with worship;

T o "thank" is a command.

U ntil we see Him coming,

V ictorious in the sky,

W e'll run the race with gratitude,

E xalting God most high.

Y es, there'll be good times; and, yes, some will
be bad, but...

Z ion waits in glory...where none are ever sad!

—Unknown