

Study Guide  
Indestructible Untouchable Joy – Week 2 (06/09/24)  
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Through Christ, we have access to internal joy that nothing external can destroy.

FOUR PRINCIPLES OF JOY:

1. Power
2. Presence
3. Praise
4. Purpose

**POWER – JOY CAN PROVIDE A POWER THAT NOTHING AND NO ONE CAN DEVOUR.**

Nehemiah 8:10 (NKJV)

*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.”*

We can either seek to ENJOY life, or we can seek to live life IN JOY.

ENJOY = external pleasure

IN JOY = internal treasure

**Read John 16:22 and John 15:11.**

**Is your joy easily stolen, or do you experience joy that “no one can take from you?”**

**Are you operating in the joy of the Lord?**

**PRESENCE – JOY IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF PROBLEMS; IT IS THE PRESENCE OF GOD.**

Acts 2:28 (NKJV)

*You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.*

**Read Acts 16:16-40.**

Paul and Silas did not pray their way out of the jail, they prayed God into the jail and the jail was not big enough to hold God.

**Do you try to pray your way out of bad situations so that you can feel joy again, or do you have an internal joy that invites God into your bad situations?**

**PRAISE – OUR EXALTATION IS AN INVITATION FOR GOD’S VISITATION.**

Psalm 22:3 tells us that God inhabits the praise of His people.

**Read Acts 16:16-40.**

**How would you have reacted to this situation?**

**When others are listening to you (Acts 16:25), what do they hear (praise or complaining)?**

Some say, “It’s human nature to complain,” but the Bible calls Christians to a higher standard.

**Read 1 Peter 1:4.**

**Why is it important for us to be born again?**

**Do you more often nurture your sinful nature or your divine nature?**

As Christians, we live with dual natures (divine and sinful) – the nature that we nurture will grow.

**Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Philippians 4:4; Philippians 4:10-13.**

**What do these passages tell us about rejoicing vs. complaining (is it nature or a choice)?**

**PURPOSE – PURPOSE UNLEASHES AND INCREASES A JOY NOTHING CAN DESTROY.**

**Read Genesis 1, 2, & 3.**

**What was God’s original plan for mankind?**

**What happened that caused everything to spiral out of control?**

People (even Christians) often confuse “career” with “purpose.” Our career is what we’re *paid* for, while our purpose is what we’re *made* for.

**Read 1 Kings 18:20-40; 1 Kings 19:1-14.**

**Read 2 Samuel 11:1-2.**

**Read Genesis 6:27; 7:5; 9:18-21.**

**What caused each of these great biblical heroes to stumble/doubt/fall?**

**What is the danger in trading purpose for pleasure?**

To ENJOY life, we can just pursue pleasure – To live IN JOY, we must pursue purpose.

**Read Deuteronomy 30:19-20.**

**How can we (modern Christians) choose the life/blessing that God is offering His people?**

**How do we (modern Christians) often choose death/curse instead?**