



For Joy - 2025

November 6 & November 9, 2025

Ice Breaker

What is one thing that happened this week that brought a genuine smile to your face or made you feel happy?

Key Verses

- Philippians 4:4 (NASB)
- Philippians 1:3-4 (NASB)
- Philippians 1:12-13 (NASB)
- Philippians 1:18 (NASB)
- Philippians 2:15-16 (NASB)
- Philippians 3:20 (NASB)
- Philippians 1:3-5 (NASB)
- Philippians 4:15-17 (NASB)
- Philippians 1:6 (NASB)
- Philippians 1:7-8 (NASB)
- Philippians Acts 20:35 (NASB)
- Philippians 4:13-14 (NASB)
- Philippians 4:18-19 (NASB)
- 2 Corinthians 9:6 (NLT)

Questions

- The pastor mentioned that many Christians don't experience much happiness in their Christian life. Why do you think this is the case, and what are some common places people look for joy that ultimately disappoint?

- The sermon emphasized that joy comes from changing our perspective to see what Jesus is doing. What are some practical ways we can shift our focus from temporary circumstances to eternal realities?
- Paul shared that Jesus taught the truth that it is 'more blessed to give than to receive.' How have you experienced this truth in your own life, and why do you think giving brings more joy than receiving?
- The pastor talked about finding joy in seeing Jesus save people both locally and globally through missions. How does knowing that people are coming to faith around the world through our church's missionary support impact your perspective on giving?
- Paul mentioned that our financial support brings joy to missionaries doing difficult work. How might this truth motivate us to be more generous in our giving to missions and ministry?
- The sermon included the promise that 'God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.' How does this promise relate to our willingness to be generous, and what fears might hold us back from trusting this promise?
- Paul said that in eternity we'll meet people whose lives were impacted by our missionary support, even across generations. How does this eternal perspective change how you view your current giving and involvement in missions?
- The command to 'rejoice in the Lord always' suggests that joy is something we actively choose to do rather than something that just happens to us. What are some practical steps we can take to cultivate daily joy in the Lord?

Life Application

This week, commit to starting each day by intentionally finding one reason to rejoice in what Jesus is doing. Whether it's thanking God for salvation, praying for missionaries your church supports, or looking for opportunities to share the gospel locally, choose to actively seek joy in the Lord's work rather than waiting for circumstances to make you happy.

Key Takeaways

- True Christian joy comes from seeing what Jesus is doing, not from circumstances, relationships, or material possessions
- We can find daily joy by recognizing that Jesus is saving people both locally through our church and globally through supported missionaries
- It is more blessed and joyful to give than to receive, and our generosity brings joy to missionaries doing difficult work around the world
- God promises to supply all our needs when we are generous in supporting His work, so we don't need to fear being generous
- Rejoicing in the Lord is a command that requires us to actively choose joy and change our perspective to see things from God's eternal viewpoint

Ending Prayer

Father God, thank You for this time of fellowship and study in Your Word. We are grateful for the reminder that You want us to be joyful people who find our happiness in You and what You are doing in this world. Help us to live with this eternal perspective, seeing beyond our temporary circumstances to the amazing work You are doing through Your church and missionaries around the globe. Give us generous hearts that find joy in giving, and help us trust You to provide for all our needs as we support Your work. May we leave here today with renewed joy in our hearts and a commitment to rejoice in You always. Transform our perspective this week so that we might be lights in our community, sharing the joy we have found in Jesus Christ. In His precious name we pray, Amen.