



Title: Unwrapped: Gift of Joy

Scripture: 1 Thes. 5:16-18

Date: 12172017

Bible Version: NKJV

BOTTOM LINE: God has given us the gift of Joy through Christ Jesus.

Vs. 16

Rejoice - Be exceedingly glad.

Not only rejoicing in happy things, but in sorrows also.- David Guzik

Because of our standing before God through Christ Jesus, we have a valid reason for joy in our lives.

Always - *Without ceasing.*

As believers, we have permission to rejoice always.

The religion of Christ was intended to remove misery.- Adam Clarke

Do not despise His operations, either yourselves or in your brethren. - Charles Spurgeon

Vs. 17

Without ceasing - As believers we are to be praying without ceasing. We are 100% dependent upon God for everything.

Some of us live lives that are devoid of prayer to God. We live our lives as if God does not matter or is not a part of it.

All good comes into the soul by this door, all true treasure by this merchant's ship.- John Trapp

You can't experience joy in your life apart from a relationship with God the Father. You can't experience a relationship with God the Father apart from accepting the gift of Jesus.

Vs. 18

In everything give thanks - Notice that we are give thanks IN everything not for everything.

Prosperity and adversity will be equally helpful to us.-Adam Clarke

[Rom 8:28 NKJV] And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to [His] purpose.

This is the will of God - God's will is for us to be thankful. This presupposes that we have something to be thankful for.

God's will for our lives:

1. Rejoice always.
2. Pray without ceasing.
3. In everything give thanks.

Every occurrence in life (whether good or bad) is an occurrence that we can profit from.

Jesus-Others-Yourself.

The Christian can rejoice always because their joy isn't based in circumstances, but in God. Circumstances change, but God doesn't. -David Guizik

December 17th, 2017

Discuss

Dig Deeper



Unwrapped: Gift of Joy

1 Thess. 5:16-18

3D Guide

BOTTOM LINE: God has given us the gift of Joy through Christ Jesus.

DO.

1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
4. What is your prayer for today?



DISCUSS.

1. It's one thing to talk about being joy filled but it's another thing to actually live it. Why is it so difficult sometimes to live our lives in a joy-filled manner?
2. If we are honest, there are times when we do not want to rejoice in a situation. How do we reconcile this with Vs. 16?
3. Looking at this block of scripture we can see that it's God's will for us to : Discuss how this practically works out in our lives.
 - a. Rejoice always
 - b. Pray without ceasing.
 - c. Give thanks.

DO.



Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try a the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on blueletterbible.com or with their app.



Parents & Kids

TAKE **HOME**

DATE: December 17rd, 2017

Scripture: From Adam and Eve to Jesus' Birth
Luke 2: 5 - 7

1. True or False: Because of our sin, we can't be friends with God. (True)
2. What do we need in order to fix our friendship with God? (We Need A Savior!)
3. Who did the prophet Micah say that God was going to send to be our Savior? (His Son Jesus)
4. True or False: Mary's special baby was a professional basketball player. (False; Mary's special baby was God's Son, Jesus)
5. Did Jesus come as a fancy king riding on a horse? (No) How did Jesus come to the world? (As a baby)
6. Why did Jesus come as a baby? (Because no one would be afraid of a baby)
7. Do you know why Jesus is able to be our Savior? (Jesus came and lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins and then rose three days later)

Memory Verse: "God sent His Son to be the Savior of the world.
We saw His Son and are now telling others about Him."- 1 John 4:14

