



# bearfruit

JOY & PEACE | GALATIANS 5:22-23

APRIL 23RD, 2023  
GLEN BARNES

“ But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!”

~ GALATIANS 5:22-23 (NLT)

the fruit of joy & peace  
God Intends the Christian Life to be Full of Joy and Peace

## Joy:

“ Be joyful at your festival.” ~ DEUTERONOMY 16:14a (NIV)

“ The joy of the LORD is your strength.” ~ NEHEMIAH 8:10b (NIV)

“ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.” ~ LUKE 2:10 (NIV)

“ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.” ~ JOHN 15:11 (NIV)

“ Rejoice in the Lord always, I will say it again: Rejoice!” ~ PHILIPPIANS 4:4 (NIV)

## Peace:

Peace \_\_\_\_\_ God.

Peace \_\_\_\_\_ God.

Peace with \_\_\_\_\_.

## Common Problems that Steal our Joy and Peace

• \_\_\_\_\_.

• \_\_\_\_\_.

• \_\_\_\_\_.

“ Where is that joyful and grateful spirit you felt then?” ~ GALATIANS 4:15A (NLT)

## Three Ways to Consistently Live with Joy and Peace: *Philippians 4:8-13*

What Paul Had Been Through When He Wrote Philippians:

- In prison on false charges
- Shipwrecked
- Bitten by poisonous snake
- House arrest awaiting trial from Nero

1 Fix \_\_\_\_\_.

“ And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.”

~ PHILIPPIANS 4:8 (NLT)

“ Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.”

~ PHILIPPIANS 4:9 (NLT)

### What had they heard and seen Paul doing?

- Acts 16:11-40
- “And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News. <sup>13</sup> For everyone here, including the whole palace guard, knows that I am in chains because of Christ. <sup>14</sup> And because of my imprisonment, most of the believers here have gained confidence and boldly speak God’s message without fear.”

~ PHILIPPIANS 1:12-14 (NLT)

2 Be \_\_\_\_\_ with life’s Changing \_\_\_\_\_.

“ Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little.”

~ PHILIPPIANS 4:11-12 (NLT)

“ You can take away my wife. You can take away my children. You can strip me of my freedom. But there is one thing no one can ever take from me and that is my freedom to choose how I will react to what happens to me.”

Victor Frankl

3 Surrender to Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_.

“ For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.” ~ PHILIPPIANS 4:13 (NLT)

## so what?

Bear Fruit is not a \_\_\_\_\_ it is a \_\_\_\_\_.

The action step is not necessarily try harder, it is \_\_\_\_\_.

## discussion questions:

COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS available on the APP |    

- 1- What brings you joy these days? What brings you peace?
- 2- What do you see as the greatest challenges to joy and peace in our world today?
- 3- Pastor Glen listed three threats to Joy and Peace: Worry, Difficult Circumstances and Legalistic Religion. Which of these have you experienced in your own life?
- 4- Read Philippians 4:8-13. Do you have a favorite part of those verses?
- 5- Read Acts 16:11-40. How would you describe Paul’s experience in Philippi? How might this have helped the Philippian church understand what Paul later wrote to them in Philippians 4:8-13?
- 6- Of the three ways to consistently live with Joy and Peace which one is the most challenging to you? Which one do you need to work on these days and why?
- 7- What does it mean “Bear Fruit” is a prayer not a command? What is the difference? What are some ways that you could actively surrender more of your life to the Holy Spirit this week?

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