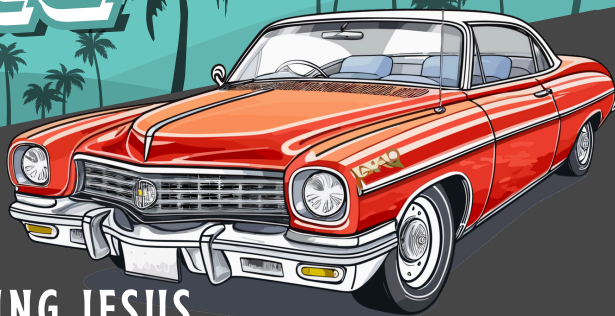


BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

Joy Ride



MAY 19, 2024 | THE JOY OF FOLLOWING JESUS



Joy looks **forward** to outcomes based on God's promises

THERE'S JOY IN OBEDIENCE BECAUSE JOY IS FORWARD-THINKING.

“LOOKING TO JESUS, THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH; WHO FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS, SCORNING ITS SHAME, AND SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD.” HEBREWS 12:2

“THEREFORE, MY DEAR FRIENDS, AS YOU HAVE ALWAYS OBEYED—NOT ONLY IN MY PRESENCE, BUT NOW MUCH MORE IN MY ABSENCE—CONTINUE TO WORK OUT YOUR SALVATION WITH FEAR AND TREMBLING, FOR IT IS GOD WHO WORKS IN YOU TO WILL AND TO ACT IN ORDER TO FULFILL HIS GOOD PURPOSE.”

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13

“FEAR AND TREMBLING”

AN AWE-FILLED, DEEP RESPECT FOR GOD AND HIS WORK,
NOT AFRAID

(HEBREWS 12:18-22)

JOY
JOY
JOY

“FOR IT IS GOD WHO WORKS IN YOU...”

- THE PENTECOST PROMISE IN ACTS 1:8
- “FOR YOU SHALL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES ON YOU; AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA, AND TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.”

“WORKS” IN THE GREEK IS ENERGEIO, “TO SHOW ONESELF OPERATING”

THE SAME WORD USED IN COLOSSIANS 1:29:

“TO THIS END I LABOR, STRUGGLING WITH ALL HIS ENERGY, (ENERGEO) WHICH WORKS (ENERGEO) SO POWERFULLY (DYNAMIS) IN ME.”

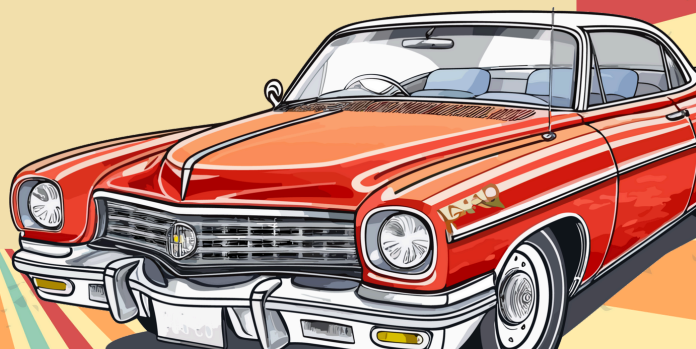
BECAUSE JOY IS FORWARD-THINKING, OBEDIENCE BECOMES AN ACT OF FAITH AND EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

“...WE RECEIVED GRACE... TO CALL PEOPLE ... TO THE OBEDIENCE THAT COMES THROUGH FAITH.”

ROMANS 1:5

THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKING IN US:

- INFLUENCES OUR WILL
- SOFTENS OUR HEART
- EMPOWERS OUR OBEDIENCE AS WE COME INTO AGREEMENT



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“Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then YOU WILL SHINE among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life.”

Philippians 2:14-16a

**IF JOY IS FORWARD-THINKING,
THEN GRUMBLING AND COMPLAINING GET US STUCK. |**

“COMPARISON IS THE THIEF OF JOY.” - TEDDY ROOSEVELT

**“GRUMBLING AND ARGUING ARE THIEVES OF JOY.” –
PAUL THE APOSTLE**

“AND EVEN IF IT WASN'T RIGHT, IT WASN'T SO VERY WRONG, WAS IT? NOT WRONG LIKE SADISM AND MURDER AND THE OTHER MONSTROUS EVILS WE SAW IN RAVENSBRUCK EVERY DAY. OH, THIS WAS THE GREAT PLOY OF SATAN IN THAT KINGDOM OF HIS, TO DISPLAY SUCH BLATANT EVIL THAT ONE COULD ALMOST BELIEVE THAT ONE'S OWN SECRET SINS DIDN'T MATTER.”

-THE HIDING PLACE

WHAT WAS THE MINDSET OF JESUS?

- **HE DEMONSTRATED SACRIFICE:**
 - **ALTHOUGH EQUAL TO GOD, HE SET ASIDE HIS DIVINITY.**
- **HE BECAME A SERVANT: HE TOOK ON HUMAN FORM, BECOMING A SERVANT.**
- **HE EMBODIED RADICAL OBEDIENCE: EVEN TO THE POINT OF DEATH ON THE CROSS.**

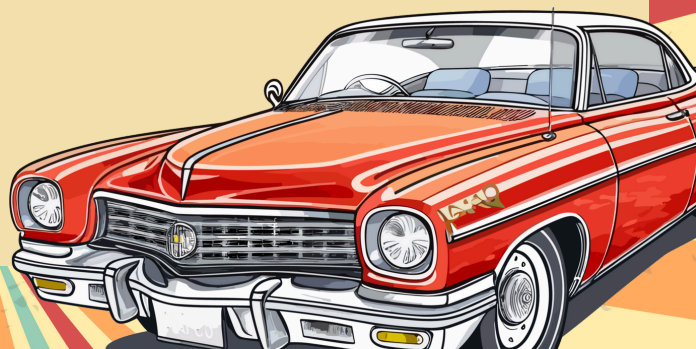
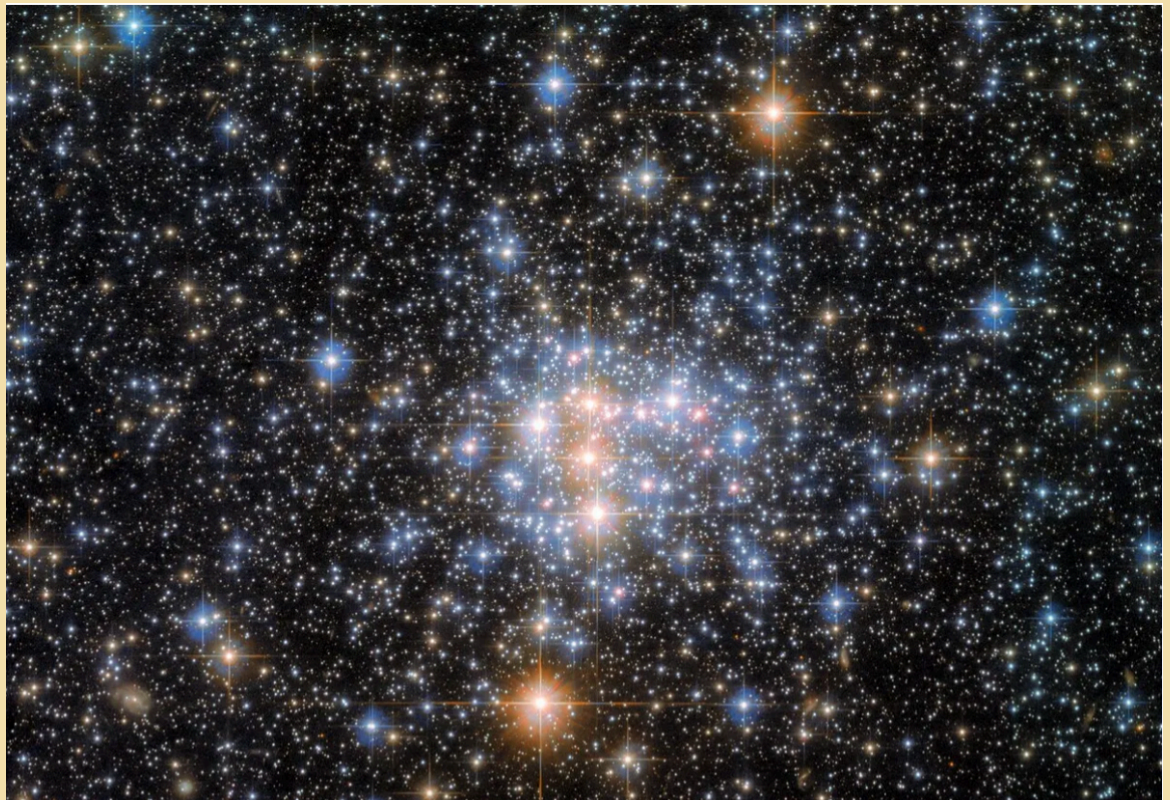


BECAUSE JOY IS FORWARD-THINKING,

OBEDIENCE MAKES YOUR LIGHT GROW BRIGHTER.

“And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain. But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.”

Philippians 2:16b-18





A “JESUS TAKE THE WHEEL” MOMENT

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. ARE YOU CHALLENGED WITH AN AREA OF OBEDIENCE IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW? ARE YOU TEMPTED TO TAKE THINGS INTO YOUR HANDS, PERHAPS DEPENDING ON YOUR OWN REASONING? WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ALLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT TO INFLUENCE AND EMPOWER YOU INTO GREATER OBEDIENCE TO GOD?
2. IN WHAT WAYS CAN YOU SEE THE JOY OF OBEDIENCE GIVING YOU MORE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE?
3. HOW DO YOU SEE OBEDIENCE BRING MORE LIGHT INTO YOUR RELATIONSHIPS AND INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER PEOPLE?
4. WHY DO YOU THINK PAUL COULD ASK THE PHILIPPIANS TO REJOICE WITH HIM, EVEN THOUGH HE WAS IN PRISON?
5. WHY DO YOU THINK OBEDIENCE REQUIRES FAITH?

