

Joy

What is joy? Webster: A feeling of great happiness! Joy is an unshakeable happiness, confidence, delight, assurance, and contentment that comes from knowing who God is and what He has done for me.

Where does Joy come from? What produces joy in our lives?

Galatians 5:22, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace..." **Joy is the fruit of the Spirit.** Joy is something God produces. Joy comes from knowing who God is and what He has done for me.

Luke 1:26-38

1. You are chosen! Verse 28

Ephesians 1:4-5

Most people spend their lives trying to prove to God and everyone else that they deserve to be loved, wanted, and desired. Jesus made a habit of choosing those who felt like outsiders.

We did not reach up, God reached down.

Luke 19:10, Jesus said, "I came to seek and save the lost."

Matthew 13:44-45

My life is full of Joy because I am chosen!

2. You are forgiven! Matthew 1:20-21

One of the greatest joy killers is shame.

Genesis 3:7-10 It is difficult to spend time with God, pray, worship, read the Bible, witness if we are filled with shame.

Where does shame come from? The Devil. **Revelation 12:10**

What is the purpose of shame? To get you to hide

What does God do with our guilt and shame? **Luke 15:20-32**

Hebrews 10:22, "let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

2 Corinthians 5:21, God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (NIV)

Joy comes from knowing I am chosen and I am forgiven.

3. You are redeemed! Luke 1:35-38

God takes our past, our failure, our sin, our pain, and redeems it.

Genesis 50:20, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people."

No matter what you are going through, God is present and at work for your good!