



**Got Joy?
Getting Joy
Philippians 4:4-13
Eric Smith | November 22, 2020**

Sermon Summary

2020 is a year we will not soon forget!

People are hurting and confused. People are feeling hopeless and afraid. Some are creating mayhem in the streets. Joy seems a distant memory at times. Maybe you are struggling with truly experiencing joy.

In times like these, the Hope and Strength that can be found in Jesus become the foundation of joy. God's word gives some straightforward practical instruction in the ways of EXPERIENCING TRUE JOY. We want you to say, "Yes!" in response to the question, "Got Joy?"

Diving Into The Message

A Practical Steps to GETTING Joy!

1. **CHOOSE Joy.**

Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again - rejoice! **Philippians 4:4 NLT**

2. **BE CONSIDERATE**

Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon. **Philippians 4:5 NLT**

3. **REPLACE WORRY with JOY.**

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:6&7 NLT**

Jesus' Teaching about Worry!

• **WORRY focuses on the temporary.**

• *"Don't worry about your life, what you'll eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?"* **Matt 6:25**

• **WORRY IS a sign that you don't think God cares about you.**

• *"Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"* **Matthew 6:26**

• *"And why worry about clothes? Look at the field lilies! They Don't worry about theirs. Yet King Solomon in all his glory was never clothed as beautifully as they."* **Matthew 6:28-29**

• **WORRY IS a waste of energy.**

• *"Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?"* **Matthew 6:27 (NIV)**

• **WORRY IS a lack of faith** “

- *If God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and gone tomorrow, won't he more surely care for you, O you of little faith?"* **Matthew 6:30**

4. THINK Rightly.

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. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from - everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you. **Philippians 4:8&9 NLT**

5. BE CONTENT.

How I praise the Lord that you are concerned about me again. I know you have always been concerned for me, but you didn't have the chance to help me. 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 4:10-12 NLT**

HOW Do I Choose Joy?

I have the strength to face anything and everything by the power that Christ gives me.

Philippians 4:13

- **LIVE in the STRENGTH of Jesus!**

LIFE APPLICATION SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

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Life Application Questions

1. What is PREVENTING you from Choosing Joy?
2. How can you “choose joy in the Lord”?
3. In what area(s) of your life can you be more considerate or reasonable?
4. What positive outcomes have you had in your life due to worry?
5. How can you let worry be a trigger for prayer?
6. List and or discuss the “things” that are true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, and admirable in your life.
7. Are you content? Why or why not?
8. Explain 2 Timothy 2:1, “be strong through the grace that God gives you in Christ Jesus” in relationship to Philippians 4:13, “I have the strength to face anything and everything by the power that Christ gives me”.
9. Say out loud “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” ten times.