

- I. Introduction/Review
 - A. Session 1 The Measure of Faith
 - B. Session 2 Increasing Your Measure of Faith
 - C. Session 3 Single-Minded Faith
 - D. Session 4 Faith Knows
 - E. Session 5 Faith Speaks
 - F. Session 6 Faith Acts
 - G. Session 7 Faith Meditates
 - H. Session 8 What is Lacking in Your Faith?
- II. The Faith & Joy Connection
 - A. Faith has Gauges

Gauge – an instrument or device used for measuring the magnitude, amount, or contents of something. It could also be used to measure the strength of something.

- 1. Our words are a gauge.
- 2. Our inflow and outflow of God's Word is a gauge.
- 3. Joy is a gauge.
- **B.** Romans 15:13 (NKJV) Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.



Romans 15:13 (AMP) – May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing [through the experience of your faith] that by the power of the Holy Spirit you will abound in hope and overflow with confidence in His promises.

- 1. True faith at work will produce joy and peace in you.
- 2. If you do not have any joy and peace, something is not working properly in your faith. *Check the gauges of joy and peace.*
- 3. Faith that has joy will cause you to abound (Increase) in hope and overflow with confidence in His promises.
- C. <u>Isaiah 55:11-12 (NKJV)</u> ¹¹So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing or which I sent it. ¹²"<u>For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace</u>; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands
 - **1.** Faith is founded upon the word that goes forth from the mouth of God.
 - **2.** Those who walk in this level of faith will go out with joy and be led out with peace.
 - 3. The faith journey includes joy!
- D. Joy is the attitude of faith, rejoicing is the expression of Joy
 - **1.** Matthew 5:11-12 (NKJV) ¹¹Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. ¹²Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
 - a. Rejoice to be full of cheer to be glad.
 - b. Faith can be glad and full of cheer during persecution.
 - c. Luke 6:23 (KJV) Rejoice ye in that day and leap for joy!



- 2. 1 Peter 1:3-9 (NKJV) ³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls
 - a. Faith greatly rejoices in what it expects.
 - b. Faith doesn't wait until the answer manifests to start rejoicing.
 - c. "Yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory."
 - d. You will know your faith is what it needs to be when it can rejoice although it has not experienced the answer.
 - e. Can your faith rejoice? Is there any joy associated with your faith?

3. Rejoicing in Psalms

- a. <u>Psalm 5:11 (NKJV)</u> But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You; Let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them; Let those also who love Your name Be joyful in You Note: Rejoicing is an expression of trust.
- b. <u>Psalm 28:7 (NKJV)</u> The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; therefore <u>my heart greatly rejoices</u>, and with my song I will praise Him.

 Note: When faith is in your heart, you can rejoice regardless of what is happening around you.
- c. <u>Psalm 119:162 (NKJV)</u> I rejoice at Your word as one who finds great treasure.

Note: The Psalmist rejoiced at the Word of the Lord – not when the manifestation occurred. He considered the Word a great treasure – not the manifestation he needed.



4. Habakkuk 3:17-19 (NKJV) — ¹⁷Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail, and the fields yield no food; though the flock may be cut off from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls—¹⁸Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. ¹⁹The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, and He will make me walk on my high hills.

<u>Habakkuk 3:18 (AMP)</u> – Yet I will [choose to] rejoice in the LORD; I will [choose to] shout in exultation in the [victorious] God of my salvation!

<u>Habakkuk 3:18 (GNT)</u> – I will still be joyful and glad, because the Lord God is my savior

Note: The only way you can rejoice when facing trials and battles is to do so by faith. Your faith must speak louder than your battle. You must have more confidence in your God than in your enemy.

III. Closing Thoughts

- **A.** Rejoicing gets and keeps my faith moving in the right direction.
- **B.** Rejoicing/Joy keeps negative forces of despair and discouragement out.
- **C.** Joy sets a barrier than the enemy cannot cross.
- **D.** My expressions of Joy are a voice of victory to my ears.
- **E.** My expressions of Joy are a voice of defeat to my enemy.