

SUMMER OF JOY 01

WHAT HAPPENED TO MY JOY?

PHILIPPIANS 1:1-6

What happened to my joy? Do you ever think that?

SOME OF US HAVE _____ OUR JOY. WE NEED TO _____ IT.
SOME OF US _____ HAD JOY. WE NEED TO _____ IT.

Ilen Glasgow, in her autobiography, tells of her father who was a Presbyterian elder, full of rectitude and rigid with duty: "He was entirely unselfish, and in his long life he never committed a pleasure."¹

JOY SHOULD BE A _____ PART OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

Proverbs 17:22 A joyful heart is good medicine, But a broken spirit dries up the bones.

Psalms 64:10 "The righteous man will be glad in the Lord. . ."

Galatians 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, JOY, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,"

"The trouble with many men is that they have got just enough religion to make them miserable." ~Billy Sunday

IF I HAD TO SUMMARIZE OUR CONCEPT OF JOY I THINK IT INCLUDES FOUR THINGS.

1. _____.
2. _____.
3. _____ (TROUBLE FREE)
4. _____.

¹ Eugene H. Peterson. *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society* (Kindle Locations 767-768). Kindle Edition.

WHEN PAUL WROTE THESE WORDS HE HAD NONE OF THE THINGS WE THINK ARE REQUIRED FOR JOY.

1. Paul wasn't _____.
2. Paul wasn't _____.
3. Paul wasn't _____ HIS LIFE WAS ANYTHING BUT EASY.
4. Paul wasn't _____.

Philippians 1:1 (NLT)

This letter is from Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus. I am writing to all of God's holy people in Philippi who belong to Christ Jesus, including the church leaders and deacons.

TO BE IN CHRIST IS TO BE _____!

Philippians 1:2 (NLT)

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

I. THERE'S JOY IN KNOWING THAT I AM

WHEN I REALLY UNDERSTAND THE _____ OF MY SIN I BEGIN TO APPRECIATE THE _____ OF FORGIVENESS.

JESUS' DEATH WAS _____. AND BECAUSE JESUS' DEATH WAS ENOUGH, I AM NOW _____.

I DON'T HAVE TO EARN GOD'S _____ THROUGH MY PERFORMANCE.

II. THERE'S JOY IN KNOWING THAT I AM

BECAUSE MY HOLINESS IS HIS DOING I DON'T HAVE TO EARN IT AND THAT MEANS I CAN'T _____ IT.

Luke 10:17–20 (NLT)

17When the seventy-two disciples returned, they joyfully reported to him, "Lord, even the demons obey us when we use your name!"

18"Yes," he told them, "I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning!

19Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you.

20But don't rejoice because evil spirits obey you; rejoice because your names are registered in heaven."

III. THERE'S JOY IN KNOWING THAT I AM NOT IN THIS

Philippians 1:3–5 (NLT)

3Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God.

FIRST, HE'S _____ ABOUT THEM.

SECOND, HE'S _____ FOR THEM.

THIRD, HE'S _____ FOR THEM.

Philippians 1:3–5 (NLT)

4Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy,

FOURTH, HE'S _____ BECAUSE OF THEM

FIFTH, HE _____ IN THEM

Philippians 1:5–6 (NLT)

5for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now.

6And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

"JOY is the experience of knowing that you are UNCONDITIONALLY LOVED and that NOTHING - sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, even death - CAN EVER TAKE THAT LOVE AWAY." ~ Henri Nouwen