

Joy Devotional

Dictionary Definition of Joy:

Gladness, triumph, delight, pleasure, a sense of well being, a source of happiness.

Anyone can be happy as a result of something good that is happening in their life, but Joy is a source of happiness. The Joy of the Lord can remain in your life no matter what you are experiencing

Scriptural Joy:

Galatians 5:22 - Joy is part of the fruit and/or characteristic of the Spirit of God. You automatically have Joy when you have God's Spirit. Joy should be consistently evident in Christian's lives.

Romans 14:17 - "The Kingdom of God is peace, joy and righteousness in the Holy Spirit." You should have Joy because you are part of the Kingdom of God.

Nehemiah 8:10 - "The Joy of the Lord is our strength."

We need the Joy of the Lord to strengthen us in our everyday lives. The moment you feel your Joy disappearing, you've got to do all that you can to get it back. The enemy comes to "kill, steal and destroy" and that's exactly what he would like to do with your Joy. Joy will keep you sane in the middle of difficult situations. Joy will help you keep your peace when confronted by tragedy. Joy also makes every day exciting and full of happiness. Make a decision that nothing and no one is going to steal your Joy. This is why David declared, "This is the day that the Lord has made and I will rejoice and be glad in it."

Finding Joy:

How do you find Joy when you feel like you have none? How do you tap into this source of strength when you feel like your weak? How do you keep Joy in your life when negativity surrounds you?

Psalm 16:11 – "In His presence is the fullness of Joy."

Psalm 22:3 – "God inhabits (dwells in) the praises of His people."

According to these scriptures, when you praise God, you usher God in wherever you are because He lives in your praises. In God's presence is where you find the fullness of God's Joy. So, whenever you need strength or Joy, just begin to Praise God. Begin thanking God for all He has already done in your life. Begin thanking Him for who He is. The Bible says in Psalm 150:6 "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."

Singing with Joy to the Lord

Psalms 5:11-12 *But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you. For you bless the righteous, O LORD; you cover him with favor as with a shield.*

Psalms 47:1 *Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!*

Psalms 96:11-13 *Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness.*

Isaiah 12:6 “... Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Joy in Others

1 Samuel 18:6 *As they were coming home, when David returned from striking down the Philistine, the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with songs of joy, and with musical instruments.*

Luke 15:7 *Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. (Jesus speaking in the parable of the lost sheep)*

Philemon 1:7 *For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.*

John 15:11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My **joy** may be in you, and that your **joy** may be made full.

John 17:13 "But now I come to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My **joy** made full in themselves.

Holy Spirit and Joy

Acts 13:52 And the disciples were continually filled with **joy** and with the Holy Spirit.

Romans 14:17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and **joy** in the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Romans 15:13 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.

1 Thessalonians 1:6 You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the **joy** of the Holy Spirit,

Hope and Joy

Proverbs 10:28 *The hope of the righteous brings joy, but the expectation of the wicked will perish.*

Romans 15:13 *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

1 Thessalonians 2:17-20 *But since we were torn away from you, brothers, for a short time, in person not in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face, because we wanted to come to you—I, Paul, again and again—but Satan hindered us. For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? For you are our glory and joy.*

1 Peter 1:8-9 *Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*

2 John 1:12 *Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink. Instead I hope to come to you and talk face to face, so that our joy may be complete.*

Christian Quotes About Joy

“The out-and-out Christian is a joyful Christian. The half-and-half Christian is the kind of Christian that a great many of you are~~~little acquainted with the Lord. Why should we live halfway up the hill and swathed in the mists, when we might have an unclouded sky and a radiant sun over our heads if we would climb higher and walk in the light of His face?” ~ Alexander Maclaren

“The men whom I have seen succeed best in life have always been cheerful and hopeful men, who went about their business with a smile on their faces, and took the changes and chances of this mortal life like men, facing rough and smooth alike as it came.” ~ Charles Kingsley

“It is His joy that remains in us that makes our joy full.” ~ A. B. Simpson

“What I am anxious to see in Christian believers is a beautiful paradox. I want to see in them the joy of finding God while at the same time they are blessedly pursuing Him. I want to see in them the great joy of having God yet always wanting Him.” ~ A. W. Tozer

“Joy is the serious business of Heaven.” ~ C. S. Lewis

Prayer:

Father God I thank you for who you are in my life. I praise you for all that you've done for me. I release all of my cares and worries into your hands because I know you are more than able to solve every problem that I could ever experience. I welcome your presence in this place. Hallelujah! I thank you that I find my joy and strength in you. Help me to learn to give you praise and get into your presence every time I need to be refreshed by your Joy. Help me to keep my mind focused on you and your word in every season of my life. I receive now unspeakable Joy from you God because your word promises it to me. This is the day that you made Lord and I will rejoice and be glad in it! I praise you! I exalt you! I lift you up! I magnify you! I love you! Hallelujah!