

Real Joy: Trusting God in Adversity Part 2
Philippians 1:12-26
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5-25-14

"Joy" is a Spirit produced rejoicing that increases as we know God and His promises.

John Piper ... "The gospel is not a way to get people to heaven; it is a way to get people to God. It's a way of overcoming every obstacle to everlasting joy in God..."

Acts 5:41 – "So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name."

Acts 16:23-25 – "When they had struck them with many blows, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to guard them securely... But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them."

2 Corinthians 6:10 – "As sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing yet possessing all things."

Ephesians 3:1 – "For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles."

Colossians 1:24 - "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, which is the church, in filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions."

2 Timothy 2:10 – "For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory."

Acts 20:24 - "But I count my life of no value to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of God's grace."

I. Confident in God's Promises.

Job 19:25-26 – "As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will take His stand on the earth. Even after my skin is destroyed, yet from my flesh I shall see God."

II. Confident in Spirit-led Prayer

James 5:16 – "Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."

Ephesians 6:18-19 – "With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, ...for all the saints, and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel."

2 Thessalonians 3:1 - "...pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you."

III. Confident in God's Provision

IV. Confident in God's Plan

Adoniram Judson - "If I had not felt certain that every trial was ordered by infinite love and mercy, I could not have survived my accumulated sufferings."

V. Confident in their God-given Progress.

3 John 1:4 – "I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth."

Faith Sheet

Transformation Verse – “Anyone who believes in Him is not judged...”

John 3:18

Main points from Sunday: As we trust God in the midst of adversity He shows Himself to be present and true. We mature in our confidence with God as we grow in knowing Him and His ways. As we mature in trusting Him, joy increases as well as our conviction in proclaiming the Gospel with our lives and words.

#1- Reviewing this past Sunday

1. Read Philippians 1:12-26 and discuss the message with someone.
2. How have recent troubles given you an opportunity to be a witness of God's goodness?
3. Why does it encourage us when we hear that others have been found faithful during adversity?
4. How does God get more glory when He takes us through troubles and dry times and we still rejoice in Him? (Psalm 73:25-28)

2- Preparing for next Sunday

Real Joy: Trusting God in Adversity Part 3 Philippians 1:27-30

1. Read Philippians 1:27-30 several times. Now read 1:12-30.
2. What did Paul want the Philippians to do? (vs. 27-28)
3. What two gifts were granted to them and us? (vs. 29)
4. How can we learn to thank Him and trust Him for both “gifts”?
5. What did the congregation have in common with Paul? (vs. 28, 30)
6. What does the text lead you to confess?
7. What does the text cause you to appreciate about God?