

LOGF NOTES 12.17.17

Gifts of Goodness: Joy is a Choice

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Gift #1: Love

We can love because we are loved.

Those who love best, know they are loved by the best.

Those who love most, are they who are loved the most.

God's goodness **to us** has led to our salvation and restoration. God's goodness **through us** will lead others to salvation and restoration.

Titus 3:4-5 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.

Titus 3:8 Be careful to devote yourself to doing what is good.

Our reward is the salvation and restoration of souls and the knowledge that God credits us with loving Him when we are loving others.

Hebrews 6:10 God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

Gift #2: Joy

Luke 2:9-11 10 I bring you good news that will cause **great joy for all the people**. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord"

What joy is NOT:

Joy is not being happy. Joy is deeper, stronger, more stable than happiness.

Joy is not dependent on outside circumstances. Joy is an internal attitude.

Joy is not something that happens to you. Joy is chosen by you.

Joy is not based on temporary things. Joy is anchored in eternal truths.

Three Truths About Joy:

1. Joy Gives You Strength.

Nehemiah 8:10 The joy of the Lord is your strength.

2. Joy Heals.

Proverbs 17:22 A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

3. Joy is Commanded.

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

10 Places You Will Find Joy

Joy is found...

1. In Church

Isaiah 58:13-14 if you call the Sabbath a delight and the LORD's holy day honorable, then you will find your joy in the LORD

the **Lamb of God**
fellowship

2. In the Presence of God

Psalm 16:11 you will fill me with joy in your presence,

3. In God's love

John 15:9-11 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

4. In Living in the Holy Spirit

Romans 14:17

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,

5. In Studying and Obeying God's Word

Psalm 19:8 The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart

6. In Worshiping & Trusting in the LORD

Psalm 100:2 Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Romans 15:13

7. In Fellowshiping with the Body of Christ

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy.

8. In Meditating on Our Salvation

Psalm 51:12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

9. In Trials

James 1:2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds....so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything

Hebrews 12:2-3

10. In Eternity

Isaiah 51:11 Those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Memory Verse:

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

1 Peter 1:8-9 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.