

Living a Fruitful Life: Joy
Galatians 5:22-23

Main Point:

Despite the many obstacles, fight for joy and find it in your Savior.

1. There are many obstacles to joy in your life.

2. But joy is your Christian responsibility.

3. More than that, joy is your Christian privilege.

4. Therefore, fight for joy and find it in your Savior.

Jerry Bridges “Christian joy is essentially the enjoyment of God, the fruit of communion with Him. Sin obviously breaks that communion and the enjoyment of His presence.”

Romans 14:17-18 17 For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. 18 For he who serves Christ in these things *is* acceptable to God and approved by men. (NKJV)

Philippians 4:4 4 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! (NKJV)

William Hendriksen “A Christian can be joyful within when without all is dark and dreary.”

John 15:11 11 “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full. (NKJV)

Psalms 16:11 11 You will show me the path of life; In Your presence *is* fullness of joy; At Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore. (NKJV)

Christopher Wright “If the biblical gospel is the best and greatest good news the world has ever heard, then there is no greater joy than knowing and believing the gospel.”

Moisés Silva “Clearly Paul does not have in view the kind of superficial happiness that manifests itself only when things go well. No, it is a rejoicing that can be had [always] ... because it depends not on changing circumstances but on the one who does not change.”

Luke 10:17-18a, 20 17 Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.” 18 And He said to them ... 20 “Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.” (NKJV)