



Welcome To Our Wednesday Night Bible Study



Please have your Bible, Pen and Paper Ready

Our Lesson will begin shortly

Pastor Lynward Hunter
7/28/2010



Journey into Joy

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Journey Into Joy 1

- The Road to Joy is always under construction.
- So tonight we will be continuing our Bible Study on Joy.
- Joy is a Spiritual Force and weapon that will help you as a believer in life.
- Joy is an inward peace and sufficiency.
- Why is it important to have Joy?
- Why is it important to remain joyful no matter what your situation or circumstance may be?

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 2

When you are not in Joy:

You become a servant to your enemies

You become servant to anything else that will keep you in bondage

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 3

Deuteronomy 28:47-48 (King James Version)

47. Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things;

48. Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 4

Deuteronomy 28:47-48 (The Message)

47-48 Because you didn't serve God, your God, out of the joy and goodness of your heart in the great abundance, you'll have to serve your enemies whom God will send against you. Life will be famine and drought, rags and wretchedness; then he'll put an iron yoke on your neck until he's destroyed you.

(This should be translated in the permissive tense not the causative tense . God will allow these things to happen).

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 5

- **Deuteronomy 32:15 (The Message)**

15. Jeshurun put on weight and bucked;
you got fat, became obese, a tub of lard.
He abandoned the God who made him,
he mocked the Rock of his salvation.

- **2 Peter 2:18-19 (King James Version)**

18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 6

- Joy will help you and protect you from the effects of trouble.
- Do not think it strange when trouble comes.

- **1 Peter 4:12 (King James Version)**

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

- **1 Peter 4:12 (Amplified Bible)**

12 Beloved, do not be amazed and bewildered at the fiery ordeal which is taking place to test your quality, as though something strange (unusual and alien to you and your position) were befalling you.

- **1 Peter 4:12 (The Message)**

12 Friends, when life gets really difficult, don't jump to the conclusion that God isn't on the job.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 7

- **John 16:33 (King James Version)**

33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

- The Greek word for "tribulation" is "Thlipsis"

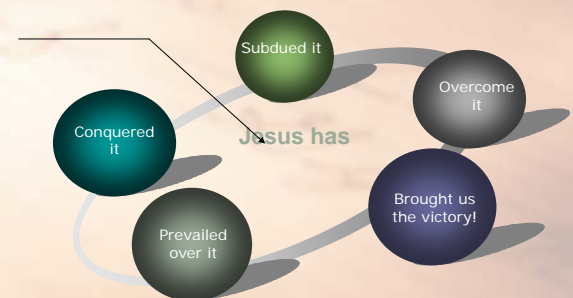
- The English word translated from the Greek word "Thlipsis" is "pressure".

- From the mouth of Jesus He said"ye shall have tribulation" (pressure or difficulties)

- "but" (little but)be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 8

That means He has literally and figuratively



Journey Into Joy Cont'd 9

- **1 Peter 4:13b(The Message)**

13 This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner.

- Use pressure packed and difficult situations and circumstances as opportunity to be joyful.

- Please understand that Joy is more than a feeling of happiness; however, it will determine your happiness.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 10

The Three Functions of Joy

To Produce Victory

To Provide fulfillment

To protect against oppression and Harassment.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 11

- Jesus is our example. He remained joyful and consistent despite the cross.

Hebrews 12:1-4 (King James Version)

- 1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,
- 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.
- 4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 12

- **James 1:2 (Amplified Bible)**
- 2 Consider it wholly joyful, my brethren, whenever you are enveloped in or encounter trials of any sort or fall into various temptations.
- *“Count it all Joy” despite your circumstances*
- **James 1:3-4 (Amplified Bible)**
- 3 Be assured and understand that the trial and proving of your faith bring out endurance and steadfastness and patience.
- 4 But let endurance and steadfastness and patience have full play and do a thorough work, so that you may be [people] perfectly and fully developed [with no defects], lacking in nothing.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 13

When you pass a test, you prove to yourself that you have what it takes to win the victory.

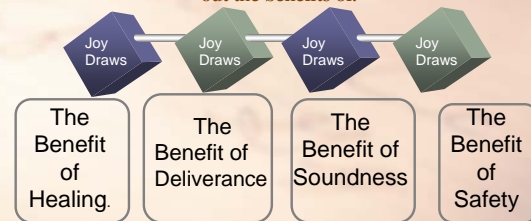
- Don't allow circumstances stop you from being consistent.

Isaiah 12:3 (King James Version)

- 3 Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 14

Joy is the “container” or “bucket” needed to draw out the benefits of:



Joy draws the benefit of financial prosperity from the “wells” of Salvation.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 15

- Joy comes when you understand the Word of God.
- **Nehemiah 8:8-10 (King James Version)**
- 8 So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.
- 9 And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the LORD your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.
- *Joy equals strength (vs. 10)*
- 10 Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our LORD: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 16

Joy Equals Strength

No Word,

No Joy.

No Joy,

No Strength.

Without strength you become vulnerable (prey) to the devil.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 17

- You may weep, but you must also allow Joy to come.
- ...weeping may endure for a night, but Joy cometh in the morning.
- Joy: singing, rejoicing, triumph.

When you understand the Word, you will no longer operate in fear.

-Fear hath torment **1 John 4:18 (King James Version)**
- 18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 18

- You must align your words with God's Word concerning your situation.
- Words cause Joy to be birthed in your life.

Psalm 19:8 (King James Version)

- 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

Psalm 19:8 (The Message)

8. The life-maps of God are right, showing the way to joy. The directions of God are plain and easy on the eyes.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 19

- Words cause Joy to be birthed in your life cont'd

Proverbs 15:23 (King James Version)

- 23 A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!

Jeremiah 15:16 (King James Version)

- 16 Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.
- When your Joy withers from your mouth, it withers from your heart.
- This will ultimately affect your life.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 20

- The fullness of Jesus' Joy comes from receiving the Words that He has spoken.

John 15:11 (The Message)

- 11 I've told you these things for a purpose: that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature.

1 John 1:4 (King James Version)

- 4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 21

- When you are less self-conscious and more God conscious and Word conscious, being more joyful will not be a problem.
- Your attitude becomes affected when you neglect to read and study the Word of God.

The Fruit of the Spirit is Love

- **Galatians 5:22-23 (King James Version)**
- 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
- 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 22

- Joy is an element of Love.
- Joy is satan's number one target.
- Joy is responsible for leading you to victory.
- Living by the Word of God brings Joy, because the Word is the origin of Joy.
- Search the Word whenever your "Joy tank" needs to be refilled.
- To be in the Word is to be in God's presence, where there is fullness of Joy.

Psalm 16:11 (King James Version)

- 11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 23

- It is our Job to seek to understand the Word of God.

Matthew 13:19 (King James Version)

- 19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

Mark 4:14-15 (King James Version)

- 14 The sower soweth the word.
- 15 And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 24

Satan:

- comes to immediately, to steal the Word that you don't understand so that you won't become joyful.
- doesn't care when a minister whoops and hollers, as long as the Word is not clear.
- knows that your understanding of the Word strengthens you!

It is:

- Your responsibility is to protect the Word you receive.

The Joy of the Lord is your strength (See Nehemiah 8:8-10)

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 25

When Trouble Comes:

- You must diligently study scriptures specific to your situation
- You must do this until you are filled with Joy

People of God:

- Don't let go until you get what you need from the Lord
- Don't allow trouble to defeat you.
- Use trouble as an opportunity to be joyful!

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 26

Hebrews 10: 32-34 (Message)

32 Remember those early days after you first saw the light? Those were the hard times!

33 Kicked around in public, targets of every kind of abuse - some days it was you, other days your friends.

34 If some friends went to prison, you stuck by them. If some enemies broke in and seized your goods, you let them go with a smile, knowing they couldn't touch your real treasure. Nothing they did bothered you, nothing set you back.

Don't dwell on what satan wants you to fear, Dwell on what you know concerning God's Word.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 27

- Fear is a spiritual connector that connects you to whatever you fear and gives satan access into your life.
- Choose to feed your faith and starve your doubts and fears.
- When tribulation comes, be determined to be of good cheer, not worried or depressed
- **John 16:33 (Amplified Bible)**
- 33 I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 28

Psalm 138:7-8

- 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me.
- 8 The LORD will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.

Keep your emotions in check!

God weighs your actions in the midst of trouble (1 Samuel 2:3)

3 Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed .

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 29

- Joy is the force that will keep you connected to what God is doing!
- It is the Word of God that gives you an understanding of what is “real” from God’s perspective (point of view)
- **The Word reveals the truth, your circumstances reveal only the facts.**
- Start celebrating what the Word says
- Make every effort to “eat” the Word by reading and studying it.

- Jeremiah 15:16 Will be the result of it.. (Joy and rejoicing)
16 Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 30

- You cannot be defeated when you remain joyful.
- Joy is not based on comfort; rather, it’s based on what you know concerning God’s Word.

- **John 15:11 (King James Version)**
11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

- **Choose to be joyful, not fearful.**
- **Joshua 1:9 (King James Version)**
9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 31

- Deliverance comes from you being joyful.
- **Psalm 34:19 (New International Version)**
19 A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all;

- **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (King James Version)**
16 Rejoice evermore.
17 Pray without ceasing.
18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 32

- Don’t rejoice and thank God “**for**” your trouble; instead, rejoice and thank Him “**through**” your trouble.
- Don’t adopt the attitude that “I just can’t be joyful right now.”
- Know this:
 - **Rejoicing is never a waste of time.**
 - **Don’t be in bondage to people, fearing what they will say, think or do in response to you rejoicing.**
 - **Being in bondage to people will hinder your restoration.**
- People may challenge your joyful attitude and question your faith, but, when you pass the test, you get the blessing and God gets the glory!

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 33

- The power of Joy works best when things aren’t working well.
- Example: Rain coat or Umbrella

- Again, the power of Joy works best when things aren’t going well. It confuses hell when you are joyful in the midst of unpleasant circumstances.
- Offer God a sacrifice of Joy whenever you’re in trouble.

- **Psalm 27:5-6 (Amplified Bible)**
5 For in the day of trouble He will hide me in His shelter; in the secret place of His tent will He hide me; He will set me high upon a rock.
6 And now shall my head be lifted up above my enemies round about me; in His tent I will offer sacrifices and shouting of joy; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 34

- Joy ushers in the presence of God.
- Wisdom is a by product of Joy.
- Laughter is a by product of Joy.
- Laughter works like medicine, distress, worry and other negative emotions leads to sickness.

- **Proverbs 17:22 (King James Version)**
22 A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.
- **Proverbs 17:22 (New International Version)**
22 A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 35

- **Proverbs 17:22 (Amplified Bible)**
- 22 A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing, but a broken spirit dries up the bones.
- **Proverbs 17:22 (The Message)**
- 22 A cheerful disposition is good for your health; gloom and doom leave you bone-tired.
- Laugh at destruction or lack and insufficiency.
- **Psalms 68:1a (King James Version)**
- 1 Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered...
- **Psalms 2:4 (Amplified Bible)**
- 4 He Who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord has them in derision [and in supreme contempt He mocks them.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 36

- God gets the glory when you laugh in faith based on what you *know, understand* and *believe in His Word!*
- Rejoicing causes restoration.
- **Jeremiah 33:11 (King James Version)**
- 11 The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, Praise the LORD of hosts: for the LORD is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: and of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause to return the captivity of the land, as at the first, saith the LORD.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 37

- Rejoicing causes God to do great things on your behalf.
- **Joel 2:18-27 (King James Version)**
- 18 Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people.
- 19 Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:
- 20 But I will remove far off from you the northern army, and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savour shall come up, because he hath done great things.
- 21 Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things.
- 22 Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 38

- **Joel 2:18-27 (King James Version) cont'd**
- 23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.
- 24 And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
- 25 And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.
- 26 And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.
- 27 And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 39

- **Psalms 33:1-4 (King James Version)**
- 1 Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright.
- 2 Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.
- 3 Sing unto him a new song; play skillfully with a loud noise.
- 4 For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth.
- **Psalms 33:12-15 (King James Version)**
- 12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.
- 13 The LORD looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men.
- 14 From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth.
- 15 He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 40

- **Psalms 33:18 (King James Version)**
- 18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy;
- **Psalms 33:20-22 (King James Version)**
- 20 Our soul waiteth for the LORD: he is our help and our shield.
- 21 For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name.
- 22 Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.
- **Psalms 33:1-4 (The Message)**
- Good people, cheer God! Right-living people sound best when praising. Use guitars to reinforce your Hallelujahs! Play his praise on a grand piano! Invent your own new song to him; give him a trumpet fanfare.
- 4 For God's Word is solid to the core; everything he makes is sound inside and out. He loves it when everything fits, when his world is in plumb-line true.

Journey Into Joy 41

- **Psalm 33:12-15 (The Message)**
- 12 -15 Blessed is the country with God for God; blessed are the people he's put in his will. From high in the skies God looks around, he sees all Adam's brood. From where he sits he overlooks all us earth-dwellers. He has shaped each person in turn; now he watches everything we do.
- **Psalm 33:18 (The Message)**
- 18 Watch this: God's eye is on those who respect him, the ones who are looking for his love.

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 42

- **Psalm 33:20-22 (The Message)**
- 20-22 We're depending on God; he's everything we need. What's more, our hearts brim with joy since we've taken for our own his holy name. Love us, God, with all you've got—

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 43

- **JOY CONFESSION**
- In the name of Jesus, I declare that I see trouble as an opportunity to use my Joy (John 16:33, I Peter 4:12-13). My Joy protects me from the effects of trouble.
- I "count it all Joy" in the midst of adversity (James 1:2 AMP)
- I operate in Jesus' Joy because I have received His Words in my heart. (John 15:11, I John 1:4)
- My words line up with God's Words: therefore, Joy is birthed in my life. (Psalm 19:8, Proverbs 15:23; Jeremiah 15:16)
- In all my getting, I get understanding of the Word of God (Proverbs 4:7). As a result, Joy and strength comes. (Nehemiah 8:8-9)

Journey Into Joy Cont'd 44

- According to Proverbs 18:21, my words have creative ability, and in the name of Jesus, I have what I say. I release Most Holy Faith to bring these things to pass in my life. Amen
- Remember : Joy comes from what you know. Stay in the Word of God so, your Joy will remain and that your Joy will be full.


Scriptures

• Deut 28:47-48	Jeremiah 15:16	Joshua 1:9
• Deut, 32:15	John 15:11	Psalm 27:5-6
• II Peter 2: 18-19	I John 1:4	Proverbs 17:22
• I Peter 4:12-13	Galatians 5:22-23	Psalm 68:1a
• John 16:33	Matthew 13:19	Psalm 2:4
• I Peter 4:13b	Mark 4: 14-15	Jeremiah 33:11
• Hebrews 12:1-4	Hebrews 10:32-34	Joel 2:18-27
• James 1:2-4	John 16:33	Psalm 33:1-4,12-15,18
• Isaiah 12:3	Psalm 138:7-8	Psalm 33:20-22
• Nehemiah 8:8-10	I Samuel 2:3	Proverbs 4:7
• Psalm 19:8	Psalm 34:19	Proverbs 18:21
• Proverbs 15:23	I Thessalonians 5:16-18	

Thank You

We appreciate you attending Rhema's Online Wednesday Night Bible Study

- Notes/Study Guide will be available online Immediately after tonight's lesson.
- God Bless You and We Love You.



Pastor's Lynward & Dora Hunter