

Choose Joy —Move Forward!

Sunday February 28, 2021

Series: Moving Forward

*“The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good,
and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil,
for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.”*

Luke 6:45 ESV

*“With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God.
From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.”*

James 3:9–10 ESV

I. Three Attitudes the Hinder My Joy

A Scripture Deficiency Attitude

Jesus’ Parable of the Hearts

- **Indifference Heart** (The Path/Road)
- **Shallow Heart** (Rocky Ground)
- **Worldly Heart** (Weed Invested)
- **Fruitful Heart** (Great Soil)

“As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Matthew 13:23 ESV

An Awareness Deficiency Attitude (Spiritual)

“God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.”

2 Timothy 2:25–26 ESV

A Ministry Avoidance (Spiritual)

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.”

John 15:4 ESV

“These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

John 15:11 ESV

II. Understanding Biblical Joy

Joy as a Feeling

1. When God Works in Me

“And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God.”

Luke 13:13 ESV

“As he said these things, ... all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.”

Luke 13:17 ESV

2. When God Works Through Me

“And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray.”
Matthew 18:13 ESV

3. When I Experience God’s Presence

“And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,”
Luke 24:52 ESV

4. God’s Working in Others

“For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil.”
Romans 16:19 ESV

Joy as an Attitude (Action)

1. Rejoicing in God’s Blessing

“Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth,”
Proverbs 5:18 ESV

2. Rejoicing When Attacked

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”
Matthew 5:11–12 ESV

3. Rejoicing When Life Falls Apart

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,”
James 1:2 ESV

God Has Equipped Me for Joy

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,”
Galatians 5:22 ESV

What Will Others See in Me?

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Luke 6:45 ESV