

## Set Free Devotional #12

by

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Saturday, March 28 Jeremiah 33:11 "...the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank offerings to the house of the Lord, saying, 'Give thanks to the Lord Almighty, for the Lord is good; his love endures forever.' For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were before," says the Lord.

Did you know that once upon a time we were known as "Noisy Nazarenes"? Yeah we were. We earned that nickname! Dr. Bresee led marches with bands going into the church to worship (in Los Angeles). We would sing loud, and shout louder when the Holy Spirit would descend upon us during services and the people around the block knew that God was in that place. Folks, we must rejoice in God! I mean we should be able to put all other celebrations to shame for the amount of joy and gladness we honestly display in our worship of God! The NFL has got nothing on us! All they offer is touchdowns, we receive eternity with Him who died for us! The confirmed bachelor of a son finding true love and getting married should not be better celebrated than the fact that we are the bride of Christ! What a day that will be when He comes to gather us up and take us to be with Him forever.

Did you ever give a thank you gift to someone? I mean when they had done something outstanding for you, like really coming through in a pinch. You were more than likely overjoyed at the opportunity to say a real tangible thank you. Remember the "I can't wait" feeling before you could actually hand it to them?

When was the last time we gave a thank you gift to God? I don't mean because we thought we should. I mean because we couldn't help ourselves, our joy filled thanks could not be contained anymore or go any longer unexpressed! We were swept away in our love and thanks toward He who first loved us!

Well, can you imagine for a moment what our church would be like if our praise knew no bounds of volume or giving thanks offerings? Think your heart could take it? It would be something to behold alright! And it would be just what those around us need for the hearts right now.

### **Suggested Prayer:**

"May the blessings of our God upon His children be told wide and long across this land. Make my voice one of the loudest I pray and my giving some of the most joyful around, My God. May I be happy, loud, and filled with the Joy of the Lord so much it just gets spilled out all around me, that others may see and rejoice in the goodness of You, My Father! Amen"