
First Baptist Dyersburg • Sermon Notes

Always be Joyful!

Sunday, October 26, 2025
Mike Hickman, Senior Pastor

¹⁶ Always be joyful. ¹⁷ Never stop praying. ¹⁸ Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NLT)

The Bible teaches us that joy is one of the defining _____ of a Christ-follower. In John 17, Jesus _____ for His disciples to be filled with joy that would originate with Him:

¹³ "Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be filled with my joy. (John 17:13, NLT)

Joy is _____ to each Christ-follower as one of the fruits of the Spirit:

²² But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! (Galatians 5:22-23, NLT)

¹⁷ For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸ If you serve Christ with this attitude, you will please God, and others will approve of you, too. (Romans 14:17-18, NLT)

We should be filled with joy because of the _____ that has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

¹⁰ but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. ¹¹ The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! (Luke 2:8-11, NLT)

⁸ You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. ⁹ The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls. (1 Peter 1:8-9, NLT)

**True joy does not come from our _____,
but from our _____ with Jesus Christ.**

¹⁴ And then, dear brothers and sisters, you suffered persecution from your own countrymen. In this way, you imitated the believers in God's churches in Judea who, because of their belief in Christ Jesus, suffered from their own people, the Jews. ¹⁵ For some of the Jews killed the prophets, and some even killed the Lord Jesus. Now they have persecuted us, too. They fail to please God and work against all humanity ¹⁶ as they try to keep us from preaching the Good News of salvation to the Gentiles. (1 Thessalonians 2:14-16, NLT)

⁶ So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. ⁷ These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. (1 Peter 1:6-7, NLT)

¹⁷ Even though the fig trees have no blossoms,
and there are no grapes on the vines;
even though the olive crop fails,
and the fields lie empty and barren;
even though the flocks die in the fields,
and the cattle barns are empty,

¹⁸ yet I will rejoice in the LORD!

I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!

¹⁹ The Sovereign LORD is my strength!

He makes me as surefooted as a deer,
able to tread upon the heights. (Habakkuk 3:17-19, NLT)

**I will rejoice in the Lord!
I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!**
(Habakkuk 3:18, NLT)