

Week 11

A Full Heart: Biblical Prosperity, Joy & Generosity

God's version of a rich life doesn't match the world's version. This week reframes prosperity, generosity, and joy around what truly endures.

Day 1 — Unshakeable Joy

Optional Reading: Nehemiah 8 • Psalm 16 & 30 • Romans 5 • Romans 12 • 1 Peter 1 • Habakkuk 3 • Philippians 4

“Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you experience various trials, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.” (James 1:2–4)

The prophet Habakkuk watched his crops fail and his flocks disappear — everything an ancient farmer depended on to survive, gone at once. And he rejoiced anyway, before any of it came back. His joy was never a reaction to what he had.

It was a declaration of who had him.

Bible Study Questions

1. Read Nehemiah 8:9-12. What does Nehemiah tell the people is their strength?

2. Read Psalm 16:11. Where is joy found?

3. Read Psalm 30:5. What contrast does this verse draw between night and morning?

4. Read Romans 5:3–5. List, in order, the chain of things named in these verses. Why does hope not disappoint?

5. Read Romans 12:12. What does this verse say we should rejoice in?

6. Read 1 Peter 1:6-7. This verse compares faith to gold. Why is it comparing the two? Why are they told to rejoice in the trials?

7. Read Habakkuk 3:17–18. List the circumstances named, and what the prophet says he will do anyway.

8. Read Philippians 4:4. What command is repeated twice in this verse?

Reflect: *What current trial could you begin viewing through what it's producing in you, rather than only what it costs you?*

Journal: *What impacted you during this devotion? How will you apply this to your life?*

Day 2 — What the Bible Means by "Prosperity"

Optional Reading: Psalm 1 • Psalm 62 • Luke 12 • Matthew 6 • 1 Timothy 6

"Dear friend, I pray that you are prospering in every way and are in good health physically, just as you are spiritually." (3 John 1:2)

This blessing links prosperity to the health of the soul first, not the size of a bank account. Biblical prosperity is holistic — spiritual flourishing that overflows into every other area, not a formula for guaranteed wealth.

A soul "getting along well" is a truer measure of a rich life than any balance sheet.

Bible Study Questions

1. Read Psalm 1:1–2. What does the blessed person not do, and what does he delight in?

2. Read Psalm 1:3. What image is used to describe this person?

3. Read Psalm 62:10. What are we not to set our heart on?

4. Read Luke 12:13-21. Who should we be rich toward? Why?

5. Read Matthew 6:19–21. What contrast is drawn between treasures on earth and treasures in heaven?

6. Read Matthew 6:24. According to this verse what happens to your love for one master when devoted to the other?

7. Read 1 Timothy 6:17. What should the rich set their hope on instead of their wealth?

8. Read Psalm 37:16. How does this verse compare a little in righteousness to a lot in wickedness?

Reflect: By this soul-first definition, how would you describe your current level of "prosperity"? What steps are required to reprioritize, if needed?

Journal: What impacted you during this devotion? How will you apply this to your life?

Day 3 — Generosity as Worship

Optional Reading: James 2 • Hebrews 13 • 1 Cor. 16 • 2 Cor. 8 • John 6 • Luke 21 • 2 Corinthians 9 • 1 John 3

“Each person should do as he has decided in his heart — not reluctantly or out of compulsion, since God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Generosity was never a transaction — it's worship, the kind of sacrifice God says he's pleased by. But worship that costs nothing isn't worship at all.

The real question isn't whether you'd give if you had more. It's whether you're withholding anything right now, while you already do.

Bible Study Questions

1. Read James 2:15-16. What does this verse say we are to pair with “warm wishes?”

2. Read Hebrews 13:16. What does this verse call the act of doing good and sharing?

3. Read 1 Corinthians 16:1-2. What pattern does Paul establish for giving, and what determines the amount?

4. Read 2 Corinthians 8:12. When is the gift acceptable according to what a person has?

5. Read John 6:8-9, 12-13. What does the boy offer, and what does Andrew's question reveal about how insufficient it seemed? What does this prove Jesus can do when we are willing to give even the smallest?

6. Read Luke 21:3–4. What does Jesus say about the widow's gift compared to the others? Who, can it be inferred, this widow places her trust in?

7. Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-5. What was unusual about how the Macedonians gave? What were their circumstances?

8. Read 1 John 3:17. What does this verse say about God's love in someone who has resources but withholds them from fellow believers in need?

Reflect: *What's your heart condition when you give? Are you reluctant, joyful, fearful, emotionless? What does that reveal about your heart in that form of worship?*

Journal: *What impacted you during this devotion? How will you apply this to your life?*

Day 4 — Contentment vs. Comparison

Optional Reading: Psalm 73 • James 3 • Proverbs 14 • Ecclesiastes 5 • 1 Timothy 6 • Hebrews 13

“I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I find myself. I know how to make do with little, and I know how to make do with a lot.” (Philippians 4:11–12)

Paul, from prison, is writing to the Philippians. In his closing, he thanks them for their support and lets them know their gift is an abundance to him because he’s learned the secret to contentment. Paul *learned* contentment; it wasn’t automatic, even for him.

Comparison is contentment’s silent killer, always measuring your life against someone else’s highlight reel and believing you lack. Comparing your situation to others is a dangerous arrogance – believing you know what you need better than God does.

Contentment is the absence of resentment about where God currently has you in life.

Bible Study Questions

1. Read Psalm 73:2-3. What does Asaph say almost happened and why?

2. Read James 3:14-15. According to this verse, where do envy and selfish ambition come from? How is it characterized?

3. Read Proverbs 14:30. What does this proverb characterize happening to the bones of a jealous person?

4. Read Ecclesiastes 5:10. What does this verse say about whoever loves money?

5. Read 1 Timothy 6:9. Where does this verse say the trap of temptation exists?

6. Read 1 Timothy 6:6. According to this verse, what is “great gain”?

7. Read Psalm 73:17. Where did Asaph’s perspective change?

8. Read Hebrews 13:5. What does this verse say to keep your lives free from? What promise does God give?

Reflect: *Where does comparison most often steal your contentment — finances, achievements, relationships, appearance?*

Journal: *What impacted you during this devotion? How will you apply this to your life?*

Day 5 — A Joyful, Generous Life

Optional Reading: Luke 12 • Matthew 6 • Proverbs 21 • Proverbs 19 • 2 Corinthians 8 • Isaiah 58 • Mark 12

“... he said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” (Acts 20:35)

Before anyone was ever asked to give a coin, Jesus emptied himself completely — became poor so that others could become rich in him.

Every act of generosity you'll ever make echoes the first one. You're not inventing something new. You're joining something that already cost everything.

Bible Study Questions

1. Read Luke 12:16-21. What happened to this man's surplus because he was not rich toward God?

2. Read Matthew 6:3-4. How are we to behave when giving to others?

3. Read Proverbs 21:13. What does this verse say happens to someone who shuts their ears to the cries of the poor?

4. Read Proverbs 19:17. How does this verse describe kindness to the poor? As a debt owed to you, or a loan you are making to God?

5. Read 2 Corinthians 8:2. What two things does this verse say overflowed in the Macedonian churches?

6. Read Isaiah 58:10. According to this verse, what happens when we help those in need?

7. Read Mark 12:43. What does Jesus say about the poor widow compared to the others?

8. Read Mark 12:44. Why does Jesus say her gift was greater?

Reflect: *When have you experienced the truth that giving made you feel richer, not poorer?*

Journal: *What impacted you during this devotion? How will you apply this to your life?*

Memorization: *What verse this week impacted you in a way that you should commit it to memory?*
