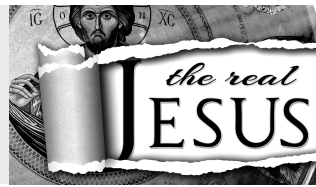


# Joy In Real Life

The Real Jesus – Part 50 John 16:16-22  
Noah Largent 10/17/21



## 1. What is Joy?

A settled internal assurance that God loves me, He has a purpose for me everyday, and a secure future - non of which can be robbed by circumstances.

*Matt. 5:11 Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven*

*Hebrews 12:2 "(Jesus) For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame."*

*James 1:2 "Consider it all joy, my brothers, when you encounter various trials."*

*Acts 5:40-41 They called the apostles in and had them flogged....<sup>41</sup> The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.*

## 2. Joy Is Inevitable

Notice, Jesus doesn't say, "you **MAY** have joy". Jesus says, "you **WILL** have joy". The Good News is that God sent His Son into the world, he died, was buried, rose, ascended to Heaven and sent His Spirit. **To have His Spirit is to have His joy!**

*John 16:22 "I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy."*

The point is if you have Jesus in your life, you have to have joy! Joy is an **inevitable** mark. I'm not saying it's an **immediate** mark, but the Bible says joy is **inevitably** true of a Christian... to personally know him - is to have joy. **God is a God of joy.** The very nature of the message is that it brings joy, so if you say, "I believe the gospel," but there isn't a growing joy (a happiness people discern in you), have you got the message? -Tim Keller John, Part 2—Feb. 16, 1992

## 3. Joy In Real Life

Christians don't deny the reality of evil, pain and suffering. Yet we have a full appreciation for the gift of life and all that comes with it. The pain and suffering in life can't overshadow or dominate the reality of God's Love for us, His daily purpose for our lives or our secure future.

## 4. Plugging Into Joy's (the Spirit's) Power

If you want to play a musical instrument, you don't just sit there and wait for it to happen. You can't be totally passive! Joy is a Fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5) that grows when we are connected to God's Spirit in us.

*Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, **JOY**, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness*



## Community Group Questions:

1. What did you hear? What hit home from the message? How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
2. Pastor Tim Keller says that "a growing joy" is one of the marks of a true Christian. If he's correct, what does "joy" in someones life look like?
3. In the book of John there are 27 conversations with or about Jesus. One of the unique features of John is that almost everyone has a difficult time understanding Jesus (think: Nicodemus to his disciples). What are some of the possible reasons?

Notes:

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