

# Joy

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (1189)**

## Happiness vs Joy

**Joy:** State of delight and well-being that results from knowing and serving God

## Jesus is the Source of True Joy

We need a change of heart, which only Jesus can bring

**Romans 8:1-4 (1132)**

**Galatians 5:22-23 (1171)**

Joy comes from a heart that's been changed by God

## How Can I Have This Joy?

### Knowing God

God has revealed Himself to us in three major ways:

### **The Creation**

**Romans 1:20** "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse."

### **The Bible**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17** "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

### **Jesus**

**John 14:7** "If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

**Colossians 1:15** "The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation."

### Serving God

**John 12:26** "Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me."

We serve God by serving Jesus, and we serve Jesus by following Him

The moment we are saved Jesus begins to change our hearts. As we begin to know and serve God our hearts continue to change and become filled with joy.

## Why is it so Hard to Keep This Joy?

### **Satan**

**Matthew 6:33** "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

We live in the "in-between time"

**1 Corinthians 13:12** "For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known."

**It is only in Jesus that we can truly find joy!**

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