



Un-Doing Joylessness

¹⁰ "Do not be worried, for the joy of the Lord is your strength and your stronghold."

Nehemiah 8:10 (AMP)

Joy Shows Up...

A) When I know that God has a PLAN for my life.

⁵ LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. ⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. ⁷ I will praise the LORD, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. ⁸ I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, ¹⁰ because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. ¹¹ You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Psalms 16:5-11 (NIV)

B) When I believe that God will WORK IT ALL OUT.

⁸ Although you have never seen Christ, you love him. You don't see him now, but you believe in him. You are extremely happy with joy and praise that can hardly be expressed in words.

1 Peter 1:8 (GNT)

C) When I CHOOSE TO WALK in joy.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Philippians 4:4 (NIV)

Choosing To Walk In The Joy Of Christ:

1. LOOK BEYOND what happened.

¹² Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel.

Philippians 1:12 (NIV)

2. Step toward the NEW OPPORTUNITY.

¹³ As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. ¹⁴ And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

Philippians 1:13-14 (NIV)

3. Keep the first thing, JESUS CHRIST, first.

²² I'm going to keep that celebration going because I know how it's going to turn out. Through your faithful prayers and the generous response of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, everything he wants to do in and through me will be done. I can hardly wait to continue on my course. I don't expect to be embarrassed in the least. On the contrary, everything happening to me in this jail only serves to make Christ more accurately known, regardless of whether I live or die. They didn't shut me up; they gave me a pulpit! Alive, I'm Christ's messenger; dead, I'm his bounty. Life versus even more life! I can't lose.

Philippians 1:16-18 (MSG)



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