

## SPIRIT LED JOY (PART 5)

The Holy Spirit wants to lead us into joy.

More accurately, the Holy Spirit wants to **bring joy into us**.

The Holy Spirit wants to bring joy into YOU.

The joy of the Lord is the gladness of heart that comes from knowing God, abiding in Christ, and being filled with the Holy Spirit.

God's joy has **nothing** to do with our physical location or circumstance.

That's actually great news, because that means no matter where you are or what you are going through, you can have His joy.

The joy of the Lord is not based on things external, it's based on who He is, what He's done and what He is going to do for us.

Joy is a **fruit** of the Spirit.

The joy of the Lord is produced internally, and the best environment for producing that joy is in God's presence.

God's wants us to have **fullness** of joy (not just a little bit of joy).

The Holy Spirit wants to teach us to enjoy:

1. His presence.
2. our work.
3. others.

The Holy Spirit continually leads us into His presence.

When is the last time you were in God's presence individually?

The ways we come into His presence are by reading His Word, engaging in prayer, and praise and worship (these are called spiritual disciplines).

But coming into His presence is not just about performing spiritual disciplines, it's about relationship.

In His presence there is fullness of joy, it's where we get changed.

His joy allows us to **enjoy Him** in all things.

No one has to tell us to do the things that we enjoy.

Joy and pleasure are two different things.

Sinful pleasure is never worth it.

If God's joy is in you, no circumstance can affect your relationship with Him.  
The joy of the Lord is your strength.  
When you come into the presence of the Lord, all the chains come off.  
The chains of depression and sin come off, every chain that holds you in bondage comes off.  
Even ministry can become a fleshly work if we are not enjoying what God has given us to do.  
God wants you to enjoy your life.  
God's joy empowers you to enjoy everything, the good and the bad.  
Ecclesiastes 5:20 says that we should be **occupied** with gladness of heart.  
Trying to enjoy our possessions without enjoying the Lord first is like eating icing without any cake.  
Doesn't really taste good.  
The joy of the Lord doesn't always come in the way we expect.  
We should have joy when we do what we are commanded to do, whether or not the results look good.  
We are only responsible to obey, we are not responsible for the results.  
The Holy Spirit wants to lead us **out of** trying to enjoy the wrong things.  
When you rejoice, you are rehearsing (practicing) joy.  
We need to push past the soul.  
Nothing needs to change in our lives (externally) for us to have fullness of joy.

## SCRIPTURE LIST

Galatians 5:22	Acts 13:2
Psalms 16:11	Acts 13:49-52
Nehemiah 8:10	Romans 12:15-16
Acts 16:25-34	Philippians 4:4
Ecclesiastes 5:18-20	