



The Reason for Joy

Paul later wrote to the church in Philippi, from prison, to thank them for the gift they had sent and to encourage them in their faith.

Joy - the emotion evoked by the prospect or anticipation of possessing what one desires.

Joy is a choice!

*...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **Hebrews 12:2 NASB 95***

*⁴ Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, ⁵ for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. ⁶ And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns. **Philippians 1:4-6 NLT***

My trust in God produces joy in my life.

*And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns. **Philippians 1:6 NLT***

I can trust that God is working through my circumstances.

- He's working when you feel stuck.

And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News. ¹³ For everyone here, including the whole palace guard, knows that I am in chains because of Christ. ¹⁴ And because of my imprisonment, most of the

*believers here have gained confidence and boldly speak God's message without fear. **Philippians 1:12-14 NLT***

- He's working when you feel attacked.

*¹⁷ Those others do not have pure motives as they preach about Christ. They preach with selfish ambition, not sincerely, intending to make my chains more painful to me. ¹⁸ But that doesn't matter. Whether their motives are false or genuine, the message about Christ is being preached either way, so I rejoice. And I will continue to rejoice. **Philippians 1:17-18 NLT***

*² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. **James 1:2-3 NLT***

- He's working when things feel unclear.

*² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. **James 1:2-3 NLT***

I can trust that God is still working in me.

*¹⁵ After breakfast Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," Peter replied, "you know I love you." "Then feed my lambs," Jesus told him. ¹⁶ Jesus repeated the question: "Simon son of John, do you love me?" "Yes, Lord," Peter said, "you know I love you." "Then take care of my sheep," Jesus said. ¹⁷ A third time he asked him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt that Jesus asked the question a third time. He said, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you." Jesus said, "Then feed my sheep." **John 21:15-17 NLT***

- Peter do you Agape (love) me
I Philos (like) You
- Peter do you Agape (love) me
I Philos (like) You
- Peter do you Philos (like) me (Peter was grieved)
I Philos (like) You

Next Steps

- Choose to trust Jesus for salvation.
- Choose to trust Jesus every day.