

# The Fruit of the Spirit is Joy!

January 28, 2018

## **Scripture:**

<sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal. 5:22 (ESV)

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts.

Jer. 15:16 (ESV)

## **From the Introduction:**

Why is it important for believers to consider joy as a part of the Christian walk? Simply put, an understanding of joy is necessary because true joy is not natural.

## Outline:

1) Joy is a \_\_\_\_\_ experience (Gal. 5:22)

“But the fruit of the Spirit is...joy”

a) It is unnatural because it is \_\_\_\_\_ to us by the Holy Spirit.

b) It is our \_\_\_\_\_ of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in our life.

2) Joy is an \_\_\_\_\_ experience (1 Th. 1:6)

“And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit.”

a) It is unnatural because it arises from our \_\_\_\_\_ in the gospel.

b) It is our \_\_\_\_\_ of overcoming trials and sufferings in our life.

3) Joy is a \_\_\_\_\_ experience (Phil. 1:25)

“Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith.”

a) It is unnatural because its source is not located in our \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

b) It is the \_\_\_\_\_ of our faith in God in our life.

## **Remember:**

<sup>11</sup>But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you. (Ps 5:11)

## **Reflect:**

“What is that joy ? Surely it is the joy of unbroken fellowship with God; the joy of conscious union and peace between the soul and Him; the joy of perfect confidence in His holy will, and perfect rest in His unchanging love.”<sup>1</sup>

## **Seek:**

- 1) Read Habakkuk 3:17-18. In the passage, the prophet lists a variety of calamities that may befall him at any moment. However, his response to all is that he would “rejoice in the LORD” (v. 18). The Hebrew word used here is *ālaz* which describes an “act of celebration.” How difficult would it be for you to rejoice if you found yourself in a situation similar to that expressed by the prophet?

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<sup>1</sup> “The Joy of the Lord,” Alice Reynolds Flower, *The Pentecostal Evangel*, December 4, 1937.

## **Share:**

- 1) In the message, pastor Mark states that joy is unnatural, and is at times confused with the emotion of happiness. Share a time when you thought you were experiencing spiritual joy only to realize later that it was emotional happiness.

## **Serve:**

- 1) Do you know someone who might need the joy of the Lord in their life today? How might you help them experience true joy, and avoid the trap of emotional happiness?

## **Pray:**

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you how He might direct you to bring spiritual joy into another person's life.