**The Joy of the Lord**

**God’s Joy removes from us Loneliness and Emptiness**

* God wants will fill our heart and life with Himself which is the only real that can fill it.
* Joy isn’t something manufacture
* Joy is By-Product of our Fellowship with God –
* Rejoicing in the Lord Always
* **The Prophet Habakkuk had his joy in the Lord and not on circumstances.**
* Habakkuk 3:17  Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labor of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:
* Hab. 3:**18  Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.**
* Hab. 3:19  The LORD God is my strength, and He will make my feet like hinds' feet, *and He will make me to walk* upon mine high places.

**Sin is the cause of unhappiness.**

* Sin lies to us, sin promise joy but it delivers sorrow.
* Pleasure of sin are temporal – Heb. 11:25
* Pleasure of God are Eternal – Ps. 16:11.
* We must understand sin and what it is according to the Bible.

**“What is sin?**

* It is the glory of God not honored.
* The holiness of God not reverenced.
* The greatness of God not admired.
* The power of God not praised.
* The truth of God not sought.
* The wisdom of God not esteemed.
* The beauty of God not treasured.
* The goodness of God not savored.
* The faithfulness of God not trusted.
* The commandments of God not obeyed.
* The justice of God not respected.
* The wrath of God not feared.
* The grace of God not cherished.
* The presence of God not prized.
* The person of God not loved.
* That is sin.” ― John Piper

**Sin is ugly – Sin in Present – Sin can be overcome**

* Lady seeking Salvation but afraid that she will sin again –
* Yes you will sin again – But Jesus will be there
* Yes you will sin again – But Jesus will give you strength to overcome.
* Use the Power of God’s Word and God’s Plan to use your faith in Him.
* 1 Jn 2:26  These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you.
* 1Jn 2:27  But the anointing [Spirit] which ye have received of him abideth in you,
* God’s Word through your believing it works effectually \*-
* 1Th 2:13  For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually works also in you that believe.
* **Someone said – Today like never before Christians need to distinguish right from wrong – between truth and error .**
* **The notion in Today’s society tells us “that nothing is never nothing always wrong and nothing always right – Too manty Christian’s are willing to accept any truth except the Bible. False Doctrine is believed.**
* **The Holy Spirit is our Teacher – He enables us to detect truth and error -**

**Fellowship with God brings joy.**

* Jesus said no one can take that away from you.
* John 16:22  And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.
* Joy that God will make sure it remains in you.
* John 15:11  These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

**Jesus is our Advocate in this relationship & fellowship of Joy. -**

* Jesus represents you at the Father’s Throne – 1 Jn 2:1
* Satan stands in accusations but Jesus is defending you.
* 1 Jn 1:7  But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.