

FINDING FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD... TOGETHER!



Gathering at 502 Pike Street, Superior MT

TITLE: BIBLICAL LIFE WORDS: LIVING BY GOD'S WORD: REJOICE
TEXT: *Philippians 4:4-5*
DATE: 29 January 2023

**Biblical Life Words 2023: Living by God's Word
Series Foundational Scripture:**

2 Timothy 3:16-17

***16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine,
for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.***

Our Biblical Life Words To Date: *SEEK, TRUST* and *PRAY*

We are encouraging one another to actually **LIVE God's Word**--So, how's your *seeking, trusting* and *praying* going?

Biblical Life Word for This Week: ***"REJOICE"***

- Yes, since the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden, mankind has too often experienced darkness, distress, and discouragement.
- Yes, since the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden, mankind has confused the idea of *happiness (being happy)* with the godly gift of ***Joy***.
- Yes, since the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden, mankind has forgotten that ***rejoicing*** is always *possible* for the believer:

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

"Rejoice" by Definition: "To rejoice, according to Mounce's Dictionary, means *"to rejoice, be filled with joy. It is the opposite of mourning. It can refer to feelings and can result from specific situations, but for the believer, it is a constant state because of our relationship with Christ—*

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.

1 Thessalonians 5:16

Rejoice evermore.

The New Testament describes the reaction of the Magi when they see the star that leads them to the Messiah in *Matthew 2:10*:

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

From the beginning of the New Testament, **Jesus Christ** is a **Source of JOY** for all who follow Him.

REMINDER: We will continue in our Study Outline with 3 Sections:

- 1) **LOOK** at our Weekly Word
- 2) **LEARN** from our Weekly Word
- 3) **LIVE OUT** our Weekly Word

I. LOOK: at our Biblical Life Word for the Week: **REJOICE**

This will cover a number of Biblical references in the Old and New Testaments. Let's *meet God Together in His Word!*

Exodus 18:9: And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the LORD had done to Israel, whom He had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.

Deuteronomy 12:7: And there ye shall eat before the LORD your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the LORD Thy God hath blessed thee.

1 Samuel 2:1: And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in Thy salvation.

1 Samuel 11:15: And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the LORD; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

1 Kings 5:7: And it came to pass, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly, and said, Blessed be the LORD this day, which hath given unto David a wise son over this great people.

1 Chronicles 16:10: Glory ye in His holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

1 Chronicles 16:31-32:

*31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let men say among the nations,
32 The LORD reigneth. Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof: let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein.*

Nehemiah 12:43: Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them rejoice with great joy: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off.

Psalms 5:11: But let all those that put their trust in Thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because Thou defendest them: let them also that love Thy name be joyful in Thee.

Psalm 28:7: The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise Him.

Psalm 40:16: Let all those that seek Thee rejoice and be glad in Thee: let such as love Thy salvation say continually, The LORD be magnified.

Psalm 68:3: But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice.

Psalm 85:6: Wilt Thou not revive us again: that Thy people may rejoice in Thee?

Proverbs 5:18: Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.

Proverbs 29:2: When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

Isaiah 61:10: I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

Matthew 2:9-11a: ⁹ When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. ¹¹ And when they were come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down, and worshipped Him:

Matthew 5:11-12: ¹¹ Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for My sake ¹² Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Luke 15:6: And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

Romans 5:1-2: Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: ² By Whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Romans 12:15: Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

1 Corinthians 12:26: And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

1 Corinthians 13:6: Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

1 Thessalonians 5:16: Rejoice evermore.

1 Peter 1:7-9: ⁷ That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the

appearing of Jesus Christ: ⁸ Whom having not seen, ye love; in Whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: ⁹ Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 4:13: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

2 John 1:4: I rejoiced greatly that I found of Thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father.

II. LEARN about our Weekly Word:

Learning Note 1: SELECT one specific passage of Scripture:

Philippians 4:4-5

4 Rejoice in the Lord always: again, I say, Rejoice.

5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Learning Note 2: STUDY our Selected passage, using a 3-tiered outline:

Oh, by the way here is a great reminder of why we study the Bible as found in

Psalm 33:4: For the Word of the LORD is right; and all His works are done in truth.

"Get into the Word, so the Word can get into you!"

Study Point No. 1: Referring back to *1 Thessalonians 4:16*, where we are told to simply *"Rejoice evermore,"* let's remember, that it is well within every believer's heart and mind to rejoice because we're always cared for by our Lord, and we're always in the presence of our Lord! *"The Lord is at hand." Philippians 4:5c*

Study Point No. 2: Referencing again *Philippians 4: 4-5*, we are called to **rejoice always**, no matter the circumstances! The **call to rejoice** is repeated and should remind us that while such ongoing rejoicing is possible, we cannot produce joy on our own; it's a spiritual fruit.

Galatians 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, JOY, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith...

- *J. Vernon McGee:* "There is no power in a Christian's life if he has no joy. One who does not experience the joy of the Lord has no power at all." We need to realize that believers who often live on Discouragement Avenue do so by choice!
- God's plan for our lives is His plan of **joy (rejoicing)** that He alone provides.
1 Timothy 6:17: "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy..."
- *J. Vernon McGee:* "The world spends a great deal of money trying to produce joy, which they call happiness. Comedians are millionaires because they tell a few funny stories. People shell out the money to hear them. Why? Because they want to laugh. They are trying to find a little happiness as they go through life. The child of God who goes through life with a sour look and a jaundiced approach to this world, will never have any power in his life. 'Rejoice in the Lord always: again, I say, Rejoice.' **Philippians 4:4**

- *Expositors*: “Christians are to maintain a spirit of joy in the Lord. They are not immune to sorrow, nor should they be insensitive to the troubles of others; yet they should count God's will their highest joy and so be capable of knowing inner peace and joy in every circumstance.”
- *KJV Study Bible*: Moderation means “graciousness” or “sweet reasonableness.” The believer who is at peace with his fellow Christian (v.2) and who rejoices always (v.4) is indeed a gracious, reasonable person.”
- *Expositors* “Believers are to show ‘gentleness’ to all. No single English word is adequate to translate this word. Involved is the willingness to yield one's personal rights and to show consideration and gentleness to others. It is easy to display this quality toward some persons, but Paul commands that it be shown toward all—Christian friends, unsaved persecutors, false teachers, anyone at all.”

Learning Note 3: Summarize

A vast number of truths can be made about **rejoicing**:

- **Summary Statement 1:**
The disciples **rejoiced** in the miracles of Jesus, in the resurrection of Jesus and over the successful ministry they had with Jesus. But as recorded in **Luke 10:17-20**, Jesus spoke of a greater reason for **rejoicing**. Let's take a look ...

Luke 10:17-20: ¹⁷ And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through Thy name.

¹⁸ And He said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

¹⁹ Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

²⁰ Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

As we have discovered here in **Philippians**, Paul, writes a great illustration for our word, **rejoice**. While in a Roman prison, Paul lived and wrote of a life of **rejoicing** in Christ.

- **Summary Statement 2:** as seen in **Philippians 1:18: ¹⁸ What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretense, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.**

Philippians 2:17: ¹⁷ Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

Philippians 3:1: ¹ Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.

Philippians 4:4: ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always: and again, I say, Rejoice.

Philippians 4:10: ¹⁰ But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

- **Summary Statement 3:** We are not ignoring the pain, struggles, or tribulations that we who are in Christ are and will continue to face even now. Yet, as we face life day to day, I want us to remember two passages from God's Word:

John 16:33:

³³ These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

1 John 3:1-3:

¹ Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore, the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not.

² Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.

³ And every man that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself, even as He is pure. Jesus is our reason to rejoice always!"

III. Let's set out a plan to **LIVE OUT** our Biblical Life Word by 3 Steps of Action:

Action Step One: Plan to **acknowledge** that in **Christ**, you can live a life of **rejoicing!**

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Action Step Two: Plan to **seek God** first, **trust in God** totally, and **pray to God** continually so that you might live a life of **rejoicing!**

Action Step Three: Plan to **share** your **life of rejoicing** with someone else; be a **rejoicing** encouragement to others!

CONCLUSION

INVITATION

*Come, just as you are. Hear the Spirit call.
Come just as you are. Come and see, come receive,
Come and live forever!*

*Life everlasting--Strength for today.
Taste the Living Water
And never thirst again.*

*Come, just as you are. Hear the Spirit call.
Come just as you are. Come and see Christ the King,
Come and live forevermore!*