

Newsletter May 2023

From Heaven's Heart

"The Relationship" It's where purest, life changing joy comes from. From Heaven's Heart!

May I begin today with what is one of the most important questions I have ever asked someone. It's a question I sometimes ask myself. So I'll ask you. How would you describe your personal relationship with God? I can answer this question for you if your days are filled with joy...your good days and your not so good days. If we have the kind of Relationship with God that the Bible describes, we will have joy...pure, life changing joy that never leaves us.

We will experience days of sadness, disappointment, loss, and troubles and God tells us we can still have joy and be at peace knowing things are going to work out OK because God is in control. So, for us to have joy in our lives when things are not going so well...then we must believe and to believe means we know...God is in control. When things seem out of control, we believe God is in control.

What kind of relationship does your Heavenly Father desire to have with you? What does He promise you?

Psalm 51 7b-12 Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. **Restore in me the joy of Your salvation,** And uphold me by Your generous Spirit.

David was as human as we are. So he experienced many troubles and setbacks. He sinned. Yet he always found God close to him when life was the hardest...and it was the hardest when he failed God and sinned.

But he always found God waiting to restore him from defeat and brokenness, troubles and sin. David learned God was ready to forgive, forget, and restore the joy he had lost when he came sorry and seeking His grace. David knew the loss of joy would be returned by God's grace. His tender mercy's and encouragement would provide all he needed to press on.

Want to find joy that's been lost. Seek God with a heart full of repentance asking for His mercy, seeking the joy only He can provide...and it will be yours. That's His promise.

With the deepest love from Your Heavenly Father,

Pastor Steve

P.S. There's something else that is on a long list of benefits we receive from a close relationship with God. Please don't underestimate the value of this benefit "Standing Firm". That's it. It comes from Ephesians. The Devil we face we can not defeat on our own. But the Devil hates the name of Jesus and has no power over His name and who claims all the rights associated with a friendship, a kinship, a permanent bloodline that runs from the foot of the cross to our hearts...with Jesus. When facing any temptation, always know by simply speaking to Satan, leave me, leave this place, get away, in the name of Jesus I command you to go. And you can claim this right as a child of God and it will be yours. You don't have the power to stand firm facing threats and temptations but you don't need it...Jesus has it and therefore as you have allowed Him to lay claim to your life...you have it. End of story.