



God is... joy

*“These things I have spoken to you, that **my joy** may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”*

John 15:11

Where does God’s “joy” come from?

- God is _____; not _____ anything
 - _____; “I AM that I AM” (*Exodus 3:14*)
 - _____ (*Isaiah 40:12-17*)
- God is _____ (*Psalms 90:1-2*)
- God is _____ (*Colossians 1:17*)

God is totally infinite, supremely valuable, immutable and holy, satisfied in his own fellowship, lacking nothing and needing nothing.

In this, _____

What prevents us from experiencing God’s “joy”?

- _____ (*Mark 11:23; James 1:6*)
- _____ (*Hebrews 3:11-18*)
- _____, lack of trust, and _____ (*Psalms 78*)
- _____ from Jesus (*Hebrews 12:2*)

How do we experience God’s “joy”?

- _____ and _____ minds (*Romans 12:2*)
- Live and operate with the “_____” (*1 Corinthians 2:12*)
- Take _____ of our _____ (*2 Corinthians 10:4-5*)
- Always _____ on _____ (*Philippians 4:8-9*)

God Is: Joy

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. Sadness, then, can be either a blessing or a curse. It has many negative effects, but only two positive effects—compassion for others and repentance.

Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. It is also helpful to get busy with some diverting work. Get around spiritual people and talk out your feelings with them. Keep trusting God. After this trial he will deliver you from evil.

Each day is unique. There are cloudy days and sunny; wet days and dry; windy days and calm. The seasons roll by as day turns into night and night into day. This variety makes beauty. It’s the same way with your life. There are ups and downs, no two days, no two hours, are ever exactly alike.

A compass needle always points north regardless of the ship’s course. If we will aspire toward God, the confusing changes of life will not unsteady us. *If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.* Nothing can separate us from God’s love. When little bees are caught in a storm, they take hold of small stones so that they can keep their balance when they fly. Our firm resolution to stay with God is like stability to the soul amid the rolling waves of life.

Francis de Sales: *The Devout Life*

Devotional thoughts and scripture meditation for week of June 9-14:

- Monday: June 9th – Nehemiah 8:10
- Tuesday: June 10th – Psalm 42, 43
- Wednesday: June 11th – Philippians 4:4-9
- Thursday: June 12th – 1 Peter 1:1-25
- Friday: June 13th – 1 Thessalonians 1:4-10
- Saturday: June 14th – Isaiah 35