

Text: Galatians 5:16-22, NLT

A Basic Working Definition of Christian Joy

- What Christian joy _____.

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 - “Joy is an attitude followers of Christ adopt, _____ to respond to external circumstances with _____, satisfaction, and confidence, because we are in _____ with God, and because we believe in the vicarious suffering, death, resurrection, and future return of Jesus. Therefore, we can _____ in the face of pain because we know that present circumstances are achieving God’s intended purposes and they are _____ the final word.”

- _____ of Christian joy.

How is Joy a Part of Love?

How can We Nurture a Life of Joy?

- We must make _____ a serious priority.

- We must nurture a sense of _____.

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- What are some of your life's most joyous moments? What made them joyous? How long did the joy last?
- How would you describe the difference between happiness as our society defines it, and Christian joy?
- What is happiness based on?
- Why is the pursuit of happiness so frustrating?
- What part of the working definition of Christian joy given in this week's sermon is most helpful to you? Why?
- How is joy a component of love?
- How is it possible for Christians to have an abiding sense of joy?
- What can we do to nurture Christian joy while living in a society that revolves around discontentment and a relentless pursuit of personal pleasure?