

The Secret of a Joyful Life
Kingdom Principles – Part 8
Life Church St. Louis – October 30, 2022
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker
Message Videos – messages.lifechurchstlouis.org

James 1:2 (ESV) Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,

Philippians 4:4 (ESV) Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

John 16:24 (ESV) Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

1. Joy comes by _____

Luke 15:3-4 (ESV) So he told them this parable: “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?

Luke 15:5-6 (ESV) And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’

Luke 15:7 (ESV) Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

2. Joy comes by finding the _____

Luke 15:8 (ESV) “Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?

Luke 15:9-10 (ESV) And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

3. Joy comes by welcoming the lost _____

Luke 15:11-12 (ESV) And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them.

Luke 15:13-14 (ESV) Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need.

Luke 15:18-19 (ESV) I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”

Luke 15:20-21 (ESV) And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

Luke 15:24 (ESV) For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

Luke 15:32 (ESV) It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.”

Weekly Healing Scripture

Matthew 8:14-15 (ESV) And when Jesus entered Peter’s house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve him.

The Secret of a Joyful Life Study Guide

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Intro. What is the difference between happiness and joy?

What does James 1:2 mean when it says we are to “count it all joy” when we face trials?

How can we rejoice in the Lord always (Philippians 4:4)?

What part does prayer play in living a joyful life (John 16:24)?

1A. What do you think motivated the shepherd to leave the 99 sheep and go after the one lost sheep (Luke 15:3-4)?

1B. Why the great rejoicing at the finding of one lost, wandering sheep (Luke 15:5-6)?

1C. How does a sinner’s need for repentance fit in with the story of the lost sheep (Luke 15:7)?

1D. How does repentance bring joy into the life of the sinner?

2A. What is similar and what is different about the story of the lost coin compared to the story of the lost sheep (Luke 15:8)?

2B. What does the story of the lost coin tell us about how we should search for the lost (Luke 15:9-10)?

2C. What does the rejoicing in heaven tell you about the importance of finding the lost?

3A. How do you think the behavior of the younger son affected his father (Luke 15:11-14)?

3B. What caused the younger son to have a change of heart (Luke 15:18-19)?

3C. What does the reaction of the father to his son tell us about how we should welcome lost sinners home (Luke 15:20-21)?

3D. Why is often hard to welcome repentant sinners home (Luke 15:24,32)?