

The Joy of the Lord

5-7-21



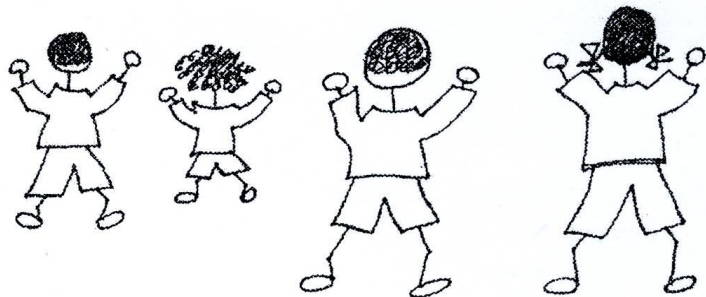
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Only God has the love, knowledge and power to come up with a plan to save mankind! He is all loving, has all knowledge and is all powerful! We can rest on those facts!

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

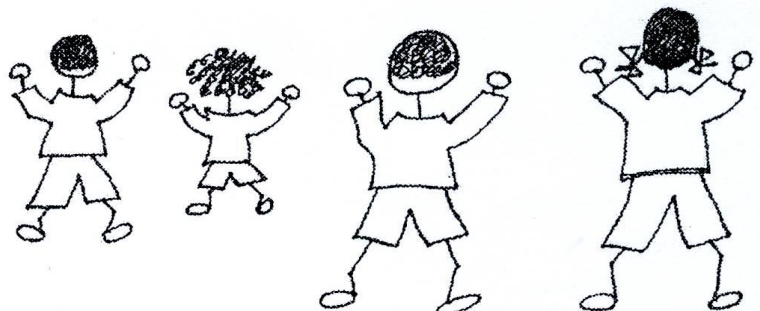
Job 42:2 "I know that You can do all things, and that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted.



Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2

Only Jesus Christ, the Son of God, could obey the plan of the Father to save mankind. In fact, it gave Jesus great joy to know that He would make it possible for mankind to be saved from the Lake of Fire and spend eternity with Him in Heaven! A person just needs to know that he or she is a sinner; believe that Jesus Christ paid the price for all of our sins while on the cross; believe that He died, was buried and rose from the dead! Jesus Christ did all the work for our salvation; He wants all to believe in Him and be saved and live with Him forever!

God's
Love
Never
Fails



Romans 5:6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

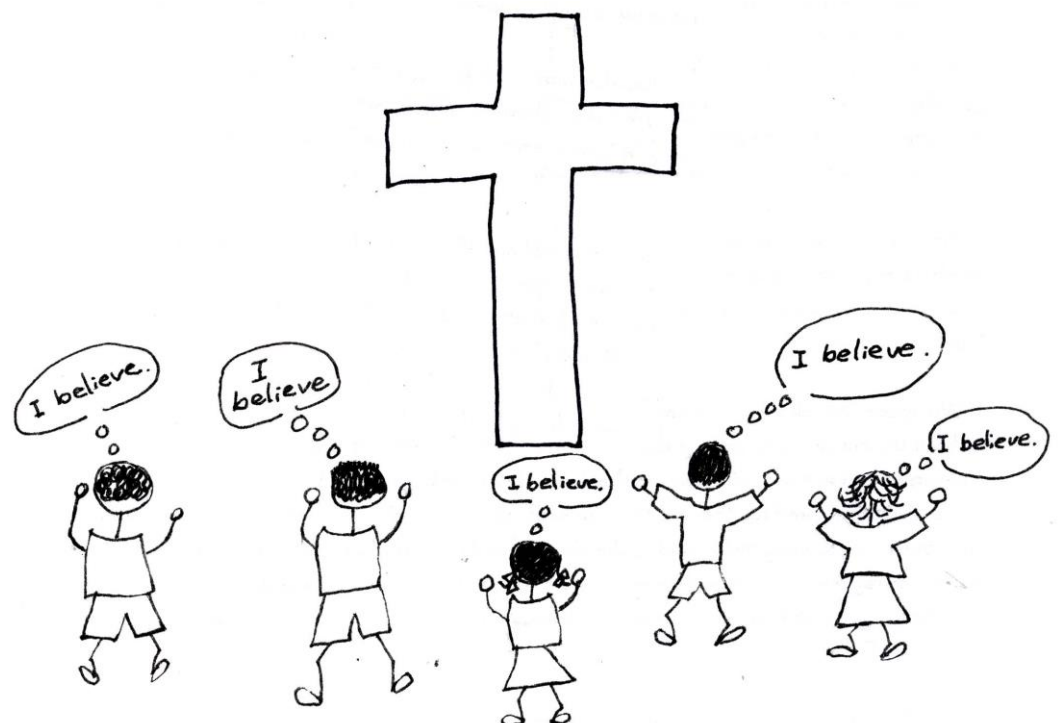
Amazing! Even though we were sinners and not living a life of obedience to God, Christ died for us! He showed His great love for all mankind. He made it possible for all to go to Heaven! No one else could do this; only the God-Man, Jesus Christ! And it brought Him great joy to do it! That is amazing love and that is the love God has for us!



Jesus thinks of you and me as joys. He is happy that we have believed in Him and will be spending forever with Him in Heaven. He wants us to learn and obey His teachings which are in the Bible. If we do this we will be using the thinking of Jesus Christ and living in His love. We will have the joy of the Lord. (Read John 15:1-11.)



John 15:11 These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.



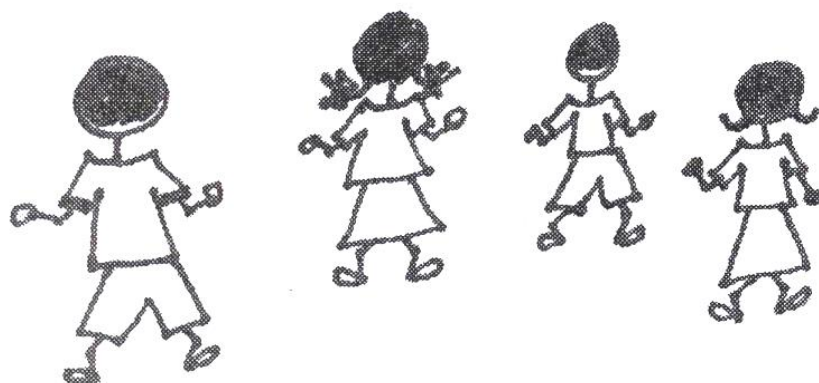
Romans 12:12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Having the joy of the Lord doesn't mean that we are always doing "back flips" over what is going on in our lives. It means that we have the hope or confidence in what the Lord teaches us. He is absolute truth so He will not lie to us. The world, our flesh and Satan will lie to us; some people will not tell us the truth. So we can't rely on them. We can only completely rely on God!



The LORD your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing (Zephaniah 3:17, NIV).

Zephaniah, a prophet in the Old Testament, was talking about a group of Jews who would obey God and be brought into the Kingdom - the Millenium. However, we can take great comfort in these words also. We know God is with us; He delivers us from troubles either through His thinking in the Bible or from the real, physical trouble; He is happy with who we are in Christ; we can be quieted with His love; God sings about how happy He is about us, His children. We can rejoice or be happy in that!!!



Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!



Our greatest reason to rejoice is knowing that God made it possible for us to be with Him in Heaven forever! As believers, we can rejoice knowing that we will be face to face with Jesus Christ! Our bodies, minds and spirits will be completely at rest! We will be with our Savior! **REJOICE!**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.

Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

While on earth, Jesus Christ experienced joy in His mind because He always agreed with the thinking of God the Father. He always did the will of God the Father. We experience true joy in our mind when we do the same thing - learn, believe, and live according to God's Word, the Bible. We are to walk or live by the power of God the Holy Spirit. He will grow in us the joy of the Lord! We will be obeying the will of God. We will be living by the strength of God and having His joy! There is no greater power or joy!



**When anxiety was great
within me, Your consolation
brought me joy.
Psalm 94:19**