

## **Fruit of the Spirit – Joy**

### **Galatians 5:22-23**

#### **Introduction – What is Fruit?**

- Definitions:
  - o a product of plant growth
  - o the effect or consequence of an action or operation
- Gifts of the Spirit vs Fruit of the Spirit

#### **I. Happiness vs Joy**

- Happiness: a pleasurable or satisfying experience or good fortune, based on external or physical circumstances - Joy: allows an inner rejoicing that remains in good times and in difficult times, a deep satisfaction that continues even when life seems empty
- 1 Thessalonians 1:6-7

#### **II. What Brings God Joy?**

1. Reconciling us to him – Luke 2:10; Luke 15:7, 10; Hebrews 12:2
2. Abiding and living out of his love – John 15:9-11

#### **III. What is the Source of our Joy?**

1. Our own salvation – Luke 10:17-20; 1 Peter 1:8-9
2. Faithfulness – Matthew 25:21, 23
3. Others' salvation – Acts 13:48-52, Acts 15:3
4. Facing trials! – James 1:2-4
5. God's presence – Psalm 16:11

#### **IV. How Can We Cultivate Joy?**

1. Keep a long-range perspective – Psalm 30:5, 11
2. Make the choice to rejoice! – Habakkuk 3:17-18
3. Appreciate salvation! – Psalm 51:12

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