

Contagious Joy Bible Study Handout Guide #7



*Some days, I really get that joy stuff. I enter into the tasks set before me with gusto while my heart hums. But other days I'm too full of sadness or too full of myself, or too overwhelmed with responsibilities to have much space for joy – **Patsy Clairmont***

*That's the way it is with life. Things may be going well. You may be enjoying luxuries and success, prestige and power, good health and prosperity. Then storms roll in with sudden vengeance, and your ship begins to sink – **Thelma Wells***

1. Does the presence of joy mean we'll never experience stress, fear, worry, guilt, or pain? Of course not. But when other emotions plague us, joy isn't thrust out entirely. How does Paul describe joy's tenacity in **2 Corinthians 4:8-10**?
2. What does Paul's joy stand up to, according to **2 Corinthians 7:4**?
3. What does Paul contrast in **2 Corinthians 6:10**?
4. What does Paul commend the church at Thessalonica in **1 Thessalonians 1:6**?
5. What does Jesus urge us to do in **Luke 6:23**? Why?

6. Joy also mingles happily with the better attributes in our emotional capacities. What does the Spirit bring to fruition in our hearts besides joy, according to **Galatians 5:22-23**

7. When is joy needed the most, as we're trusting God for His strength, according to **Colossians 1:11**?

8. Joy steadies us so that we don't lose heart in face of our big and little problems. In **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**, why does Paul say we needn't lose heart?

9. Losing heart is a lot like losing your joy. Paul often encouraged those who were serving the Lord not to lose the joy they had in Him. What does Paul encourage faithful to do in Galatians 6:9?

DIGGING DEEPER VERSES: What does David say in Psalms 43:5?

Ponder and Pray: Write your own personal prayer here today:

Trinkets to Treasure: It's strange but true. Joy can be a constant in our lives, no matter what circumstances and emotions might be at work. To remind us of this, our trinket this week will be a raindrop. Just as a sun shower sets raindrops to sparkling, the storms in our lives can be brightened by joy's presence. Hang your raindrop where the sun can shine through it. (copied from our study guide)

