



Freedom In Christ Church

Newsletter



Unraveling the Mystery of Joy Unspeakable Part 1

I have titled this 2-part series “Unraveling the Mystery of Joy Unspeakable”. When we start to unravel a mystery, first we must start by asking some questions. The very first question that we are going to ask is, “what is joy?” I have found some definitions to share so that we can begin break it down.

Dictionary Definition: Joy (noun) (something that we can have possession of) A feeling of great pleasure and happiness.

The biblical term “Joy” means; Blessed assurance that God is in control. A spiritual joy ride through life, if you will.

The word Joy translates to the Greek word – Chara. Chara describes a feeling of inner gladness, delight or rejoicing.

Chara describes it as a feeling of “inner gladness”, the dictionary’s definition of the word “joy” describes it as a possession, whereas the word that we are speaking of is something that is inside of us. It’s not something that we can go out and grab, it’s not tangible.

Now that we know the definition of “joy”, what is joy unspeakable? Joy unspeakable is joy that is so great, so wonderful, magical, marvelous, and magnificent that we, in our human language, could never accurately depict it. We cannot articulate it because there are not enough words in the human language to be able to accurately describe joy unspeakable.

This joy is a deeply rooted sense of well-being and right standing with the Lord. So, why is it unspeakable? Because this joy is other worldly. It cannot be duplicated or replicated. There is no synthetic version of this joy. It is authentic joy that comes only from our Heavenly Father. It is a spiritual joy, intended for a spiritual being. As spiritual beings we are entitled to joy unspeakable.

Now that we know what “joy” and “joy unspeakable” are, the next question is, how do we obtain joy unspeakable? It’s simple! Joy unspeakable is a gift! It’s a Fruit of the Spirit. We gain access to it the day that we accept Jesus Christ into our hearts.

How do we maintain joy unspeakable? By living a life that is holy, acceptable, and pleasing to God. God wants us to have joy unspeakable. That is why its included in that pretty little gift basket that’s wrapped up with a bow, delivered straight from the Lord’s heart to ours the day that we accept His Son.

Take a look at 1 Peter 1:8-9 (NIV)

Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

What Peter is saying is because we have the faith to believe in a God that we don’t see, and we have the faith to love a Savior that we have never met or touched, we are to receive a gift. Joy unspeakable! Inexpressible joy because of our faithfulness.

The true gift is the Holy Spirit. He comes bearing gifts every single time we allow Him to come and be in the driver’s seat. When we allow Him to move freely in our lives. How we do that is by creating a welcoming atmosphere for Him to move.

When we create an atmosphere for Him to move and He is in the driver’s seat, He is going to take us great places. The ultimate goal as a born-again believer, as a follower of Christ, is to be like Christ. To imitate Christ and to do everything in reflection of Jesus Christ. When we allow the Holy Spirit to drive, that is where He is taking us. With every direction, every turn He takes us, the ultimate destination is in mind, to be like Christ.

The words that we speak greatly affect our ability to maintain joy unspeakable. Although joy unspeakable is a gift, it is our responsibility to maintain it and to live in joy unspeakable, every day. We do that with the words that we speak.

Proverbs 15:4 (AMP)

A soothing tongue (speaking words that build up and encourage) is a tree of life, but a perverse tongue (speaking words that overwhelm and depress) crushes the spirit.

Speaking words of life, love, peace, encouragement, positivity and especially speaking God's Word is how we are going to maintain joy unspeakable in our own lives. In Part 2 we are going to learn how we can share this joy unspeakable with others.

In the meantime, I want to encourage you to access your joy unspeakable. Tap in. Live in it, rest in it. Put into practice the principles that the Lord has put into place for our benefit. Remember, God's way is eternally rewarding, here on earth and in the heavens above.

Sister Leah Hockenberry

I Am Not Ashamed of the Gospel of Christ

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. Romans 1:16

The Gospel, "the Good News", is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes. If they don't believe the Gospel, they will remain lost in sin. This isn't just any natural power; it's the supernatural power of God that when believed it has the ability to bring a person from spiritual death to spiritual life. Jesus calls spiritual life being "born again" (John 3:3). The

apostle Paul says when a person believes the Gospel, they become a “new creation” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Spiritual death is when a person is separated from God through sin. This is what happened to Adam and Eve when they sinned in the Garden of Eden. The death that happened to them was two-fold. The spiritual death of no longer having the life of God in their spirit happened first. Then eventually physical death occurred due to the curse that came through sin. When a person accepts Jesus Christ by believing the Gospel, God sends the Holy Spirit to live within their Born-Again spirit. Yes, God downloads Himself within the Believer. Imagine that! Their bodies become the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19). If that doesn't light a fire within a person their wood must be wet. No wonder the Gospel says, “greater is He who is within me than he that's in the world” (1 John 4:4).

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. II Timothy 3:16

The Gospel was written by 40 men over a period of 1500 years. All of these men were inspired by the Holy Spirit when they wrote the Gospel. The Holy Spirit is the author of the Bible.

The Gospel tells us of a God who loves us and has made a way for us to have eternal life through Jesus Christ (John 3:16). The Gospel tells us that we have all sinned and are in need of a Savior (Romans 3:23). The Gospel tells us about our Savior Jesus Christ who took our place on the cross and died for our sins so we can receive forgiveness (2 Corinthians 5:21). The Gospel tells us about our need for repentance (Matthew 3:2). The Gospel tells us that salvation is a gift by God's grace when we believe, and we can't earn salvation through our works (Ephesians 2:8).

Jesus said His followers are to go into all the world and preach the Gospel (Mark 16:15). Even in these difficult times all Believers must be brave and be remain faithful to this calling. Jesus said that persecution will come for the Words sake (Mark 4:17) and if the world hates you, know that they hated Him first (John 15:17). I have a saying, "I would rather be out on a limb with Jesus Christ than standing on 'solid' ground with the devil." In other words, take this whole world just give me Jesus.

There is a fierce battle going on right now for the souls of the lost. Keep getting the Gospel into as many as you can because it is the light that Satan is hiding from those who are lost in darkness.

"If the Good News we preach is hidden behind a veil, it is hidden only from people who are perishing. Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God. You see, we don't go around preaching about ourselves. We preach that Jesus Christ is Lord, and we ourselves are your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ." 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 NLT

Salvation Prayer:

Heavenly Father, I believe the Gospel of Christ is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes. I believe that Jesus died on the cross for my sins, and I understand that I am in need of a Savior. Jesus come into my life and be my Lord and Savior. Fill me with your Spirit and empower me to live for you. Thank you, Father, for this gift of eternal life. In Jesus name amen.

Pastor John Pogue

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Jesus Is

It came over me to put this word out there that the Lord recently pressed into me. He had me understand better the spiritual warfare happening. The principalities are at war with the prophets, the saints, our Pastors, the movers, and teachers of truth. As we, the body of our church, strengthen in unity as we are doing right now, the enemy fights harder. We must be prayer warriors. We can and will protect ourselves and defeat the enemy through prayer because we know good always prevails. We must speak the words that ignites the power and movement to defeat the enemy. We will keep sharing our testimonies and teaching the truth from the precious Word our gracious Lord has given to all that thirst. We will overcome!

Jesus Is
Jesus is the Messiah
Jesus is King of kings
Jesus is Lord of lords
Jesus is our Redeemer
Jesus is God's only Son
Jesus is the reason we are here
Jesus is our Savior
Jesus is our hero
Jesus is Light
Jesus is Love
Jesus is perfect Love
Jesus is Worthy
Jesus is in you and me
Jesus is Salvation
Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life
Jesus is Redemption

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Jesus is Honor
 Jesus is Glory
 Jesus is life
 Jesus is resurrection
 Jesus is listening
 Jesus is not pain
 Jesus is the Great Physician
 Jesus is never going to leave us
 Jesus is good, all the time
 Jesus is able
 Jesus is knocking at the door
 Jesus is the only begotten Son
 Jesus is and always will be
 Jesus is coming back
 Jesus is hope
 Jesus is living hope
 Jesus is the name above all names
 Jesus is worthy of all praise
 Jesus is the power in which we stand
 Jesus is the voice in the desert
 Jesus is our rescue story
 Jesus is the blood that washes us clean
 Jesus is our rock
 Jesus is our chain breaker
 Jesus is the risen King
 Jesus is seated at the right hand of God
 Jesus is hope amongst shattered dreams
 Jesus is a life changer
 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever
 Amen and Hallelujah, thank you Jesus!

-Brother Darin Bartron

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KIDZ KORNER

FREEDOM IN CHRIST CHURCH OFFERS FIRST CLASS CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES! BABY SPARKZ NURSERY: CHILDREN AGES NEWBORN TO 3 YEARS OF AGE - BABY SPARKZ NURSERY IS AVAILABLE FOR OUR SUNDAY MORNING AND WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES AND INCLUDES A TODDLER CLASS FOR AGES 4-5 ON SUNDAY MORNINGS. BOTH AGE GROUPS OF LITTLE ONES WILL BE TAUGHT THE BASIC FUNDAMENTALS OF KNOWING AND LOVING GOD THROUGH CREATIVE AND FUN WAYS DESIGNED TO KEEP THE CHILDREN'S ATTENTION AND MAKE A LASTING IMPACT. ALL WHILE EXPERIENCING AN ATMOSPHERE OF CHRIST LIKE LOVE AND A SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE. NURSERY DIRECTOR: SISTER INAYAH POGUE PROGRAM FOR AGES 4-5: SISTER LISA DAYWALT

KIDZ IGNITING: SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES PROVIDE THE AMAZING KIDZ IGNITING PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN AGES 6-12. PASTOR DANE POGUE USES THE CREATIVE AND EXCITING PROGRAM, KID NATION, TO CAPTIVATE OUR CHILDREN'S MINDS AND TEACH THEM THE POWERFUL WORD OF GOD. KIDZ IGNITING SERVICES FEATURE A KEYNOTE PRESENTATION, SKITS, GAMES AND TICKET INCENTIVES WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO WIN PRIZES EVERY WEEK. KIDZ IGNITING IS ALSO AVAILABLE DURING OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE. OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT KIDZ IGNITING PROGRAM IS TAUGHT BY A TEAM OF FOUR TEACHERS. CHILDREN'S PASTOR: PASTOR DANE POGUE WEDNESDAY NIGHT TEACHERS: SISTER MARSHA WILLIAMS, BROTHER RANDY AND SISTER SHERRY MILLER, AND SISTER DEBBIE BEST

PASSION YOUTH GROUP: HOSTED IN THE UPSTAIRS PORTION OF PASTOR JOHN AND SISTER LESLIE'S HOME FOR AGES 13-18. PASSION YOUTH GROUP OFFERS A SMALLER SETTING WITH A WARM AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT. WE HAVE AIR HOCKEY AND FOOSBALL TABLES AND A HANGOUT AREA TO RELAX AND FELLOWSHIP. PASTOR DANE PREACHES THE TRUTH IN LOVE TO OUR YOUTH AND TACKLES THE BIGGEST AND MOST CHALLENGING ISSUES WE FACE TODAY. PASTOR DANE'S APPROACH OF NOT HOLDING BACK HAS CHANGED THE LIVES OF MANY YOUTH OVER THE YEARS. PASSIONATE,

POWERFUL, ENLIGHTENING AND LIFE CHANGING SERVICES, WEEK AFTER WEEK. ABOVE ALL ELSE, PASTOR DANE IS DEDICATED TO TEACHING THE WORD OF GOD AND HOW TO KNOW GOD, LOVE GOD AND EXPERIENCE GOD.

YOUTH PASTOR: PASTOR DANE POGUE

AS FREEDOM IN CHRIST CHURCH CONTINUES TO GROW, SO DOES KIDZ IGNITING, PRAISE THE LORD! WE ARE BUILDING A TEAM OF SUPPORT STAFF FOR BOTH KIDZ IGNITING AND OUR BABY SPARKZ. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THIS INCREDIBLE TEAM, CONTACT PASTOR DANE OR SISTER INAYAH.



Name That Hymn

Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided...



WAYS TO GIVE:

PAYPAL @ FREEDOMINCHRISTCHURCH@YAHOO.COM

MAIL @ 4042 SYCAMORE GROVE ROAD CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202

GIVE, AND YOU WILL RECEIVE. YOUR GIFT WILL RETURN TO YOU IN FULL-PRESSED DOWN, SHAKEN TOGETHER TO MAKE ROOM FOR MORE, RUNNING OVER, AND POURED INTO YOUR LAP. THE AMOUNT YOU GIVE WILL DETERMINE THE AMOUNT YOU GET BACK.

LUKE 6:38

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Upcoming events

Pantry of Hope

Food and loose change Sunday

First Sunday of every month

March 31st

Donations of Easter candy and eggs are to be turned in.

April 2nd 6PM

Egg decorating and filling. All ages welcomed.

April 3rd 11AM

Easter Eggstravaganza

Norlo Park (first pavilion by the tennis courts)

Answer:

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Follow us on social media



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