

JOY

The words joy and joyful are each used over 200 times in the Bible. In contrast, happy is only translated 100 times. Which of the following synonyms of joy might you put together to help you understand the difference between joy and happy?

Exuberant	Exultant	Jubilant	Celebrant	Elated
Blissful	Vibrant	Delightful	Deep rooted	

Read John 15:9-12. What two things is Jesus teaching about joy in verse 11?

Did you find a connection between joy and love in the verses?

Read John 16:24. What do you think it means to ask in Jesus' name?

When do you think this verse suggests that our joy is complete?

Jesus also mentioned joy in the parables of the Lost Sheep and Lost Coin in Luke 15:1-10. What do you think Jesus was teaching in these stories? Note verses 1-2 to understand the audience he was speaking to.

What did the disciples learn and teach about joy?

John the Baptist. Read John 3:26-30.

Paul. Romans 12:12

Romans 12:15

Romans 15:13

Phillipians 4:4

1 Thess. 5:16-18

Peter. 1 Peter 1:8-9

James. James 1:2-4

What do the following Old Testament verses tell us about joy?

Psalms 5:11

Psalms 37:4

Proverbs 10:28

Nehemiah 8:9,10

Jeremiah 15:16

Habakkuk 3:17-19

If God wants us to have joy and it is the Holy Spirit's job to give us joy - why is it that we don't always seem to have it?