

# Stay Rad!

## “Radical Joy”

Phil. 4:4: “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!”

### What is Joy?

1. **Definition** - Joy is an inner peace (a sense of well-being), sufficiency, strength, & confidence that I feel as I trust in God that is not affected by outward circumstances (a holy optimism).
  - Neh. 8:10 “Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”
2. Joy is a gift from God to believers.
  - Eccl. 2:26 (NLT): “God gives wisdom, knowledge, and joy to those who please him.”

### Why Should I Be Joyful?

1. Because in Christ I am forgiven.
  - Rom. 8:1-2: “There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup> because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.”
2. Because in Christ I experience eternal life.
  - Rom. 8:9-11: “You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.”
3. Because in Christ God is on my side.
  - Rom. 8:28-31: “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup> And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. <sup>31</sup> What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”
4. Because in Christ God will meet all my needs.
  - Rom. 8:32-33: “He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?”
5. Because in Christ God will never stop loving me.
  - Rom. 8:33-39: “Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written: ‘For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.’ <sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons neither the present nor

*the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

## **What Can Jam My Joy?**

### **1. Sin**

- **Rom. 8:5-8:** *“Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. <sup>6</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.”*

### **2. Fear**

- **Rom. 8:15-16:** *“The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’ <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.”*