



Bearing Fruit: "Joy"

Galatians 5:22-23, But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Zephaniah 3:17, The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.

John 15:9-11, "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

Philippians 4:8, Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

1. Pastor Steve mentioned that the "fruit" of the Spirit is singular, meaning they were meant to be seen as one package (not individual list) however we often feel we do better with some more than others. Which ones on the list (Gal 5:22-23) do you feel come easier to you? Which ones are more challenging for you?
2. Read Zephaniah 3:17 and John 15:9-11. Do you believe the God of the universe is full of joy (happy being)? What makes this easy or hard to believe? How does this shape your understanding of God's desire for you to be full of joy?
3. What are some circumstances (good or bad) that affect a sense of joy (positively or negatively) in your life? Read Phil 4:8. How might what we dwell upon impact our capacity for godly joy?
4. What are some practical ways to grow in a "joy in the Lord" whether it be from the sermon, the Bible or your own spiritual journey that have been helpful for you?