

JOY

The word joy, as mentioned in Galatians 5:22, is the Greek word chara. It has the idea of rejoicing or delighting, primarily in the ways of God. It is an abiding joy that is present regardless of the circumstances.

Fill out the following exercise and try to comprehend joy from God's perspective. Do this together as a group project.

1. What is the one reason why Christians lack joy today?
(John 16:23-24)
2. What is the source of our joy? (Romans 15:13)
What is our responsibility?
3. Can experiences of sorrow prepare for and enlarge a person's capacity for joy? (John 16:20; Romans 5:3-4; II Corinthians 7:4; 8:2)
4. What is the object of our joy? (Psalms 35:9; Isaiah 61:10)
5. Why does God tell us to be thankful in everything?
(I Thessalonians 5:18; Ephesians 5:20)
6. If happiness is your goal, you will never achieve it; but joy is achievable regardless of life's circumstances (John 10:10). List at least four things you can do that will bring joy to your life.