

Living with Joy in Christ

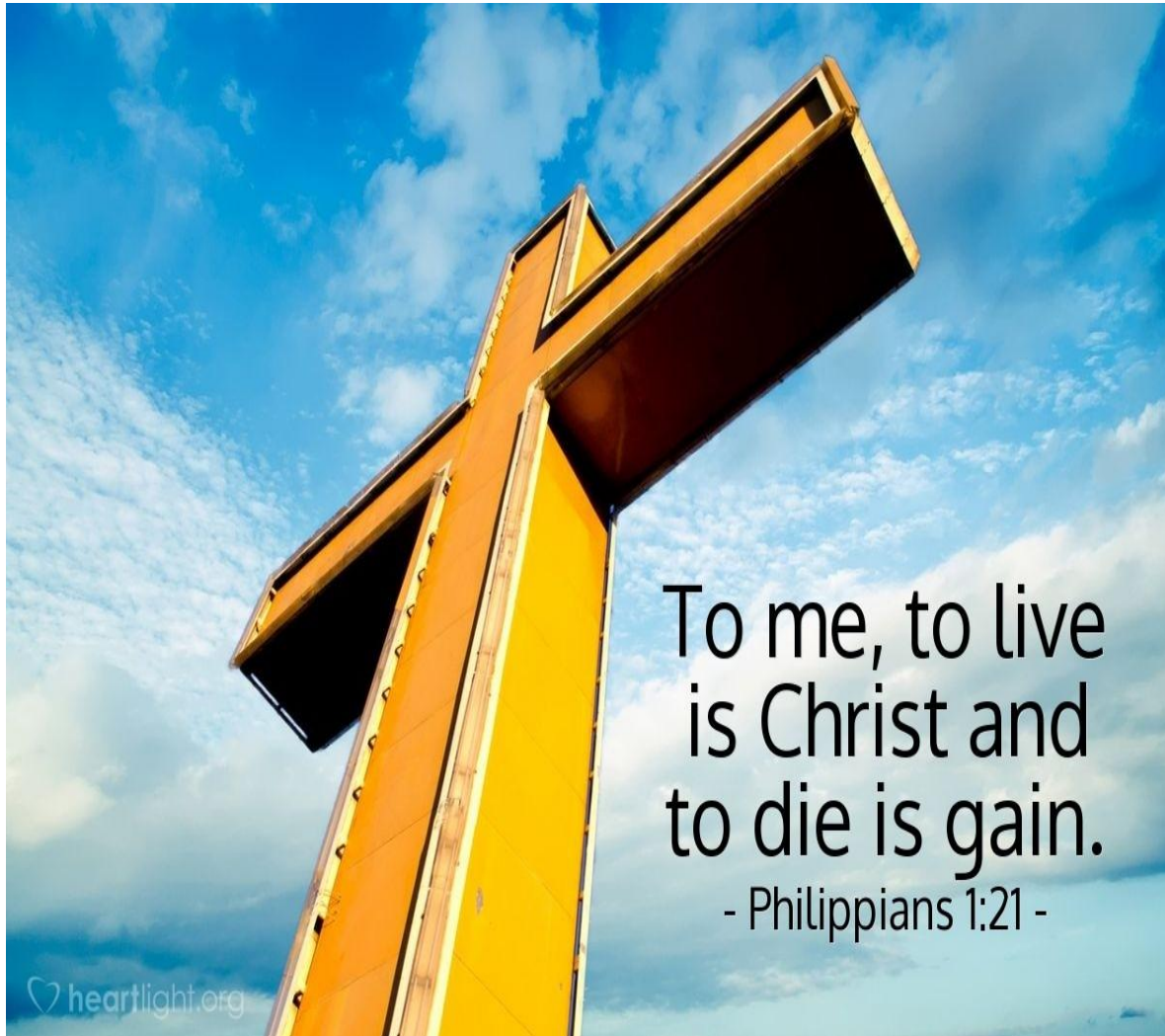
Philippians 4: 1-20



translates to blessings of good fortune, happiness, luck, and prosperity.

Our blessing of joy is in Jesus Christ.

Philippians



- Author-Paul (Rome)
- Believers at Philippi(Macedonia)
- Book of Joy (16x)
- key theme...live with joy in Christ despite suffering

- Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!
- ² I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.
- Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus... ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Emphasis on Joy

- Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends! (1)
- Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! (4)
- I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me (10)
- he rejoiced in the Philippians and called them to rejoice always.

Because...

- Miraculous founding of the church....
- God started this work and will Himself complete it...
- Their partnership with him in the gospel:

It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me (1:7)

I have told you this so that
my joy may be in you and
that your joy may be
complete.

John 15:11 NIV

 BIBLE PORTAL

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Joy in prison

- Paul's joy was from the Lord.
- Result from being in Christ, not from happy occasions (like feasting and receiving angpows)
- Complete...lasting joy and happiness

John 15:11

Joy in real life situations

- Joy in unity...dealing with conflict (2-4)
- Joy in the peace of God...
dealing with anxiety / worry by prayer (6-7)
- Joy in contentment / giving generously(10-20)

Unity...same mind in the Lord

- ² I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.
- Conflict among co-workers in the church...pleaded to reconcile

Conflict...rob us of Joy

- Not take side but pleaded with those close to the women to help them reconcile.
- Not about who is right or wrong in any dispute in ministry, but rather to preserve unity and joy in church as God intents.
- Be humble and consider others better than yourselves (2:3-4). Do everything without arguing or grumbling (2:14-15)...shine like stars in the sky (witness of the church to the world)

*Let your gentleness be evident
to all. The Lord is near.*

- Philippians 4:5 -



- In dealing with one another, be gentle because the Lord is coming soon.
- Be like minded in Christ, reconcile conflicts to preserve unity

How big of an issue?

- Widespread problem?
- Not only addressed to the Philippian church...all believers then and now
- Called to be like-minded and united

then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

Philippians 2:2 NIV

Humility of Christ

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit.

But in humility consider others better than yourselves

Each of you should look not only to your own interests but also to the interests of others.

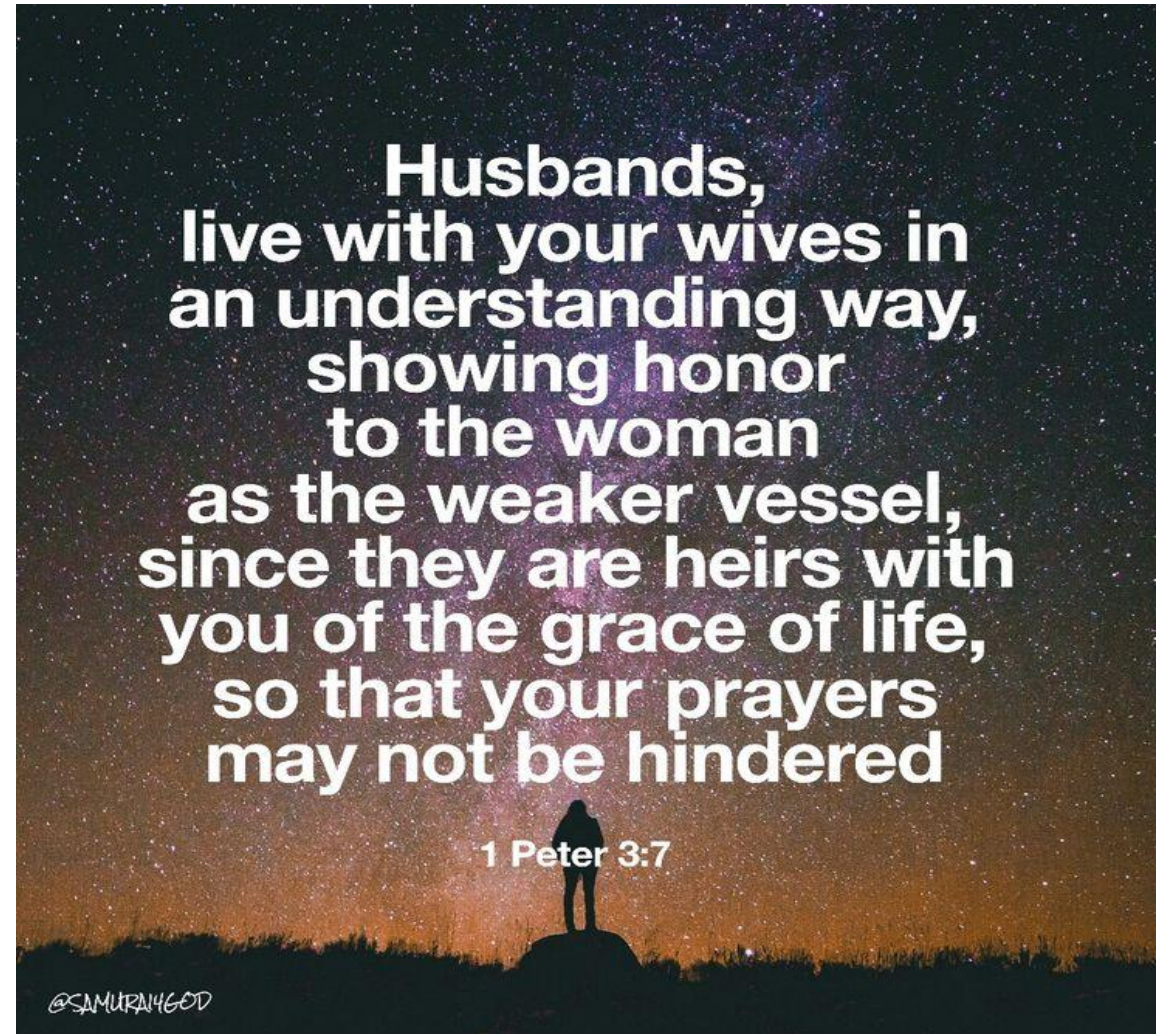
Philippians 2:3-4

Have the mindset as Christ Jesus:

- ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.
⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Relationships affect...joy

- Relationships affect our spirituality....and joy
- Ephesians 5, Colossians 3 and 1 Peter 3:
 1. slave...master (same Heavenly Master)
 2. Husband...wife (affect our spirituality)



Joy in peace

Philippians 4:6

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Pray with thanksgiving:

- believe God has heard your prayer and will answer it the best way according to His purpose.
- belief...lead to peace and preserve joy
- unbelief will rob us of the joy in trusting Him

Philippians 4:8-9



✦ “. . .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. 9 Whatever you have **learned or received or heard from me**, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.”

(NIV)

- After praying, think whatever is....
- Not positive thinking, but applying God’s Word and claiming His promises.
- God of peace will be with you...

GOD HAS SAID "I PROMISE"

FOR NO MATTER HOW MANY
PROMISES GOD HAS MADE,
THEY ARE "YES" IN CHRIST.
AND SO THROUGH HIM
THE "AMEN" IS SPOKEN BY US
TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:20 (NIV)

- Yes...God is faithful (18) and trustworthy to keep His promises
- Amen (God's will be done)...for His glory
- Problem...expectation is selfish:
- eg. I obey and keep my part of the bargain. Now bless me. Do not allow any serious suffering.

**AND THE PEACE OF
GOD, WHICH
TRANSCENDS ALL
UNDERSTANDING,
WILL GUARD YOUR
HEARTS AND YOUR
MINDS IN CHRIST
JESUS.
PHILIPPIANS 4:7**

- Experience God's peace which exceeds anything we can understand(NLT)
- Issue may not be solved but the worry replaced by the peace of God when we believe and trust Him

Worry lifted

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?”

Matthew 6:25

- Jesus taught:
- So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. (31-32)

**God knows and
He cares!**



CAST ALL YOUR ANXIETY ON HIM
BECAUSE HE CARES FOR YOU.

1 PETER 5:7

CrossCards

Phil. 4:10-13

10 I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. 11 I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Contentment

- Contentment is a state of peaceful happiness, satisfaction, and inner ease with one's current life circumstances, regardless of external, material, or social status.
- It represents a "quiet" form of happiness rather than intense excitement, often characterized by gratitude for what one has, rather than craving for more.
- Closely linked to Joy of the Lord

Joy in contentment

- Paul's joy:
- Not because of their concern or giving, but through Christ he is content in all circumstances...well fed or hungry, and living in plenty or in want
- Need to learn... not come naturally especially when in want or little

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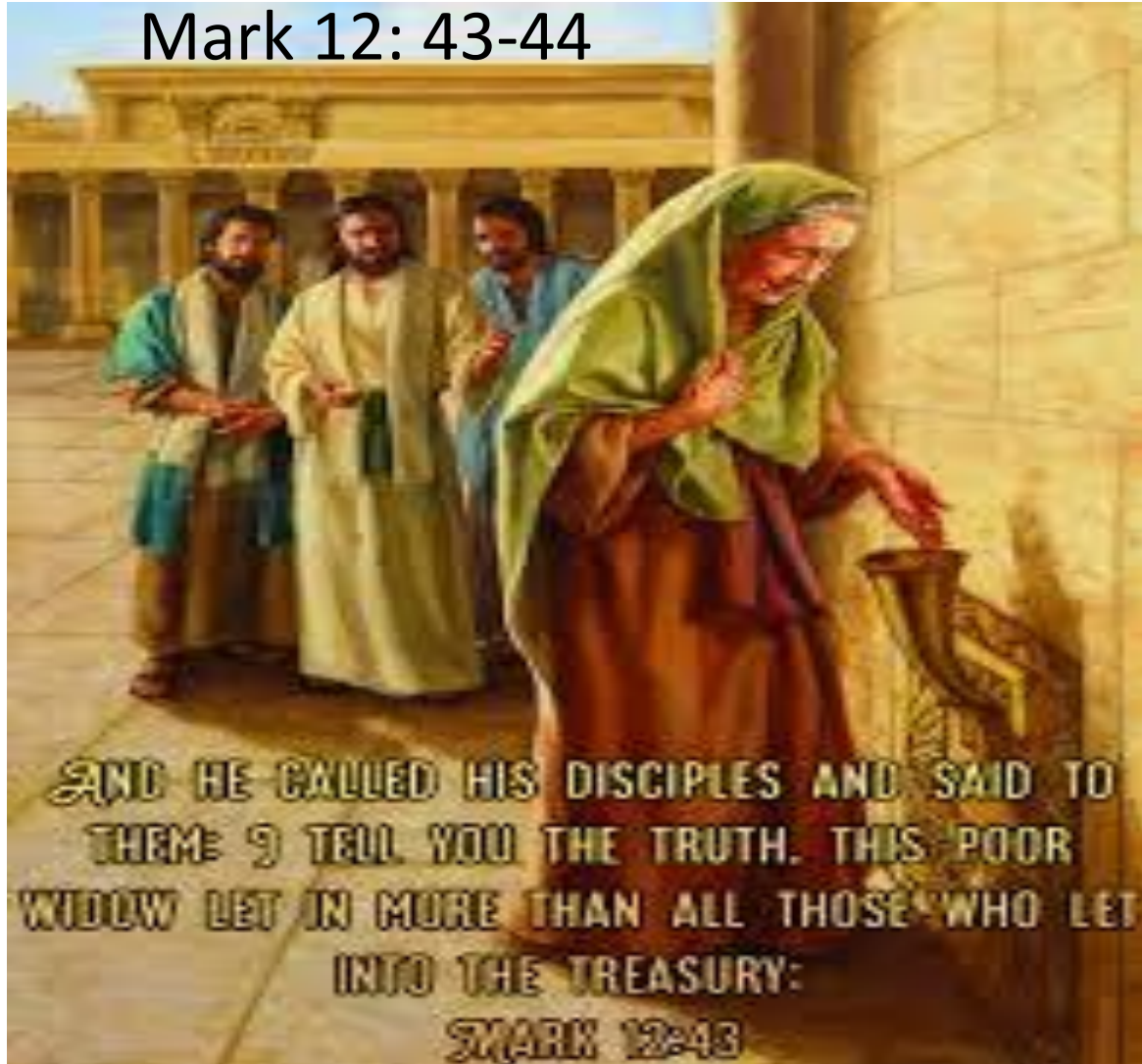
I can do all this
through him who gives
me strength

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

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Content with little...difficult

Mark 12: 43-44



- Jesus favored the widow(2 copper coins)...for her contentment with little
- God favor those who are content with the little they have and are willing to give all that they have to Him.
- Paul had learnt this secret of being content in little.

**Can I really
do all things
through Christ
who gives
me strength?**



- Can we be content with little?
- Through Christ, it is possible to see God's will in every circumstance and to accept it with singing instead of complaining

Joy in giving

- Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need...I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Principle of giving with joy



- We declare our belief in a giving God through our giving even when we have little
- God will supply...for us to give (4:19)

**Our giving reflect
our trust in God**

I have received full payment, and more.

I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:18-19 ESV

- Giving by faith is a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God



2 Cor 9:6-8

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. **7** So let each one give as he decided in his heart, not from sorrow or out of duty; for God loves a cheerful giver. **8** And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in everything, may abound for every good work.

- Sow(give) bountifully...reap bountifully (blessed)
- Give thoughtfully and cheerfully
- Give trustingly... believing God will provide more than sufficiently for you to give

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Luke 6:38



- Give bountifully and reap bountifully

Summary

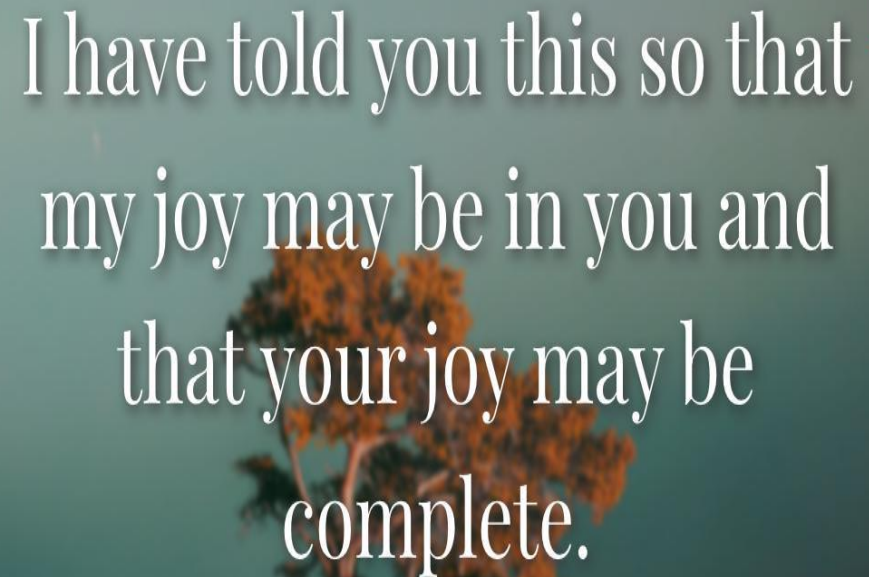
A person is captured in mid-air, jumping joyfully on a beach. Their arms are outstretched horizontally, and their legs are bent in a classic jumping pose. The background is a clear blue sky with a few birds flying. The ocean waves are visible in the foreground, and the beach is dark. The entire image has a blue tint.

REJOICE

in the Lord always

Phil. 4:4

Joy of Jesus



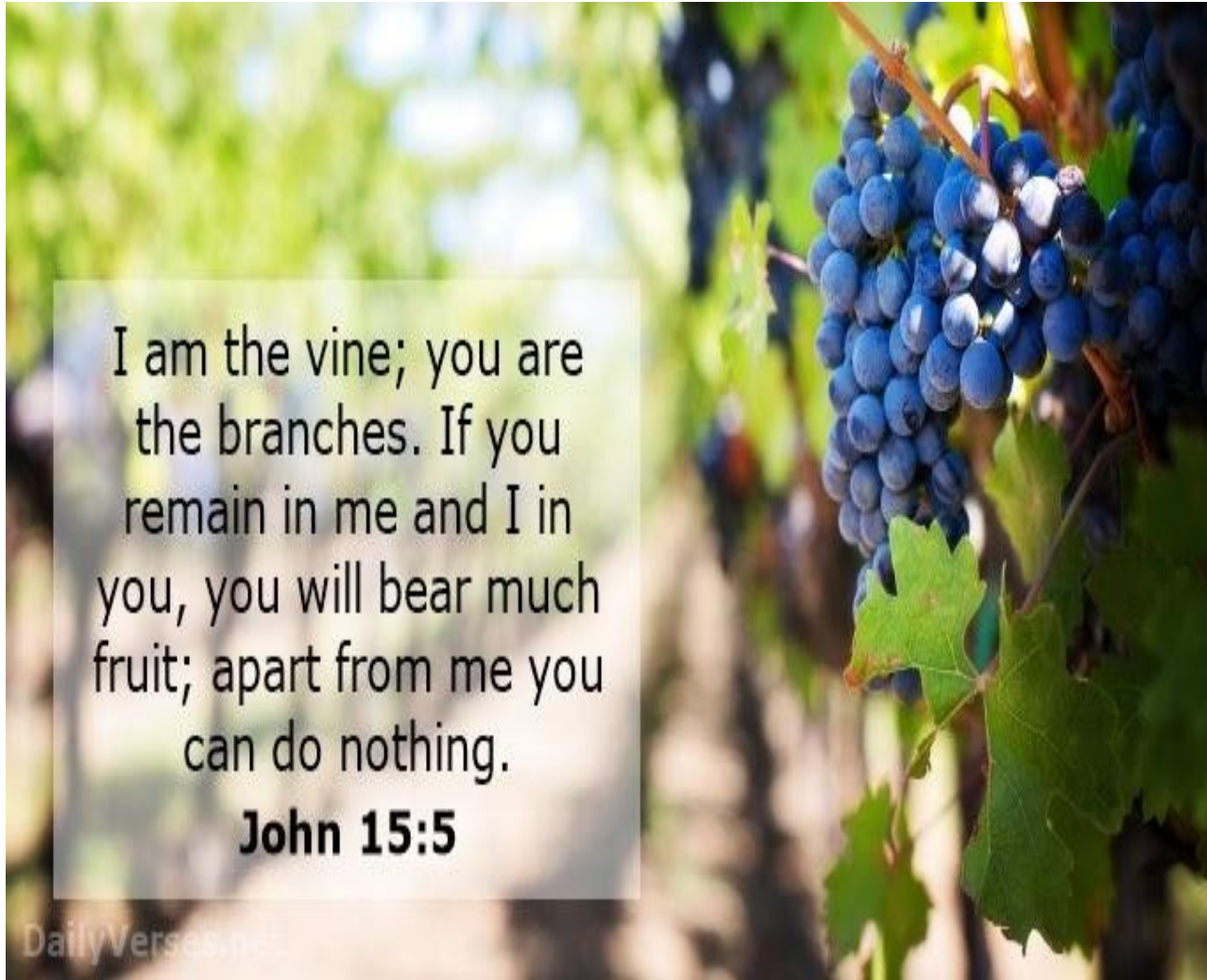
I have told you this so that
my joy may be in you and
that your joy may be
complete.

John 15:11 NIV

 BIBLE PORTAL

- From our relationship with God the father and His Son Jesus (John 15:11)
- Jesus is the Vine, we are the branches. We bear fruit if we remained in Him... fruit of joy

Maintain this joy...



I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5

Affected by:

- Obedience
- Love one another
- Prayer in faith

Preserve Unity

**Let your
gentleness be
evident to all.
The Lord is near.**

Philippians 4:5, NIV
JollyNotes.com

- Be considerate to one another as this will affect your spirituality and joy in the Lord

Preserving peace of God



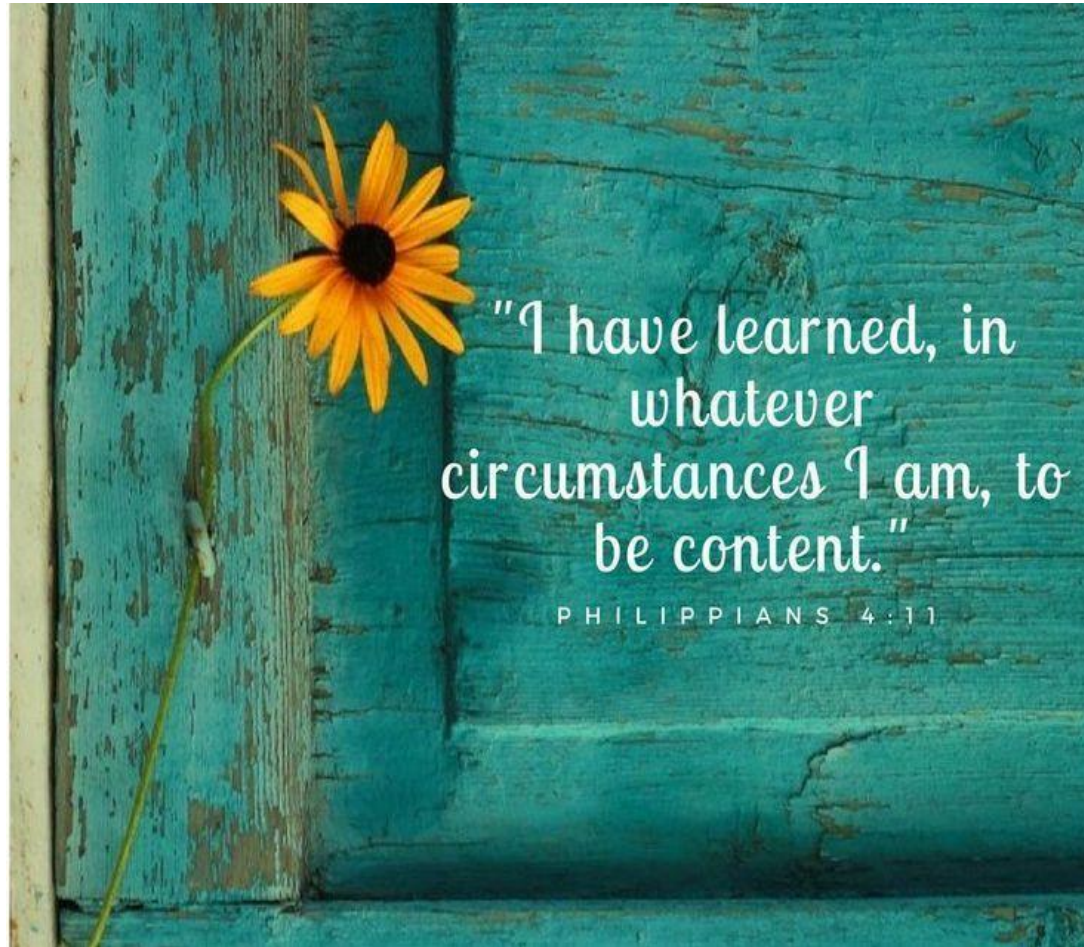
- Pray and give thanks, trusting God for the appropriate answer at the right time.
- Claim His promises that are a 'yes' and 'amen' in Christ.

*And the peace of
God, which
transcends all
understanding, will
guard your hearts
and your minds in
Christ Jesus.*


Philippians 4:7



Be content ... in Christ



Celebrate the New Year 2026



REJOICE
*IN THE LORD ALWAYS.
I WILL SAY IT AGAIN:*
REJOICE!

PHILIPPIANS 4:4

Living with Joy in Christ

- With gentleness...
- With peace....
- With contentment...

**May the Lord bless
us with His joy!**