




# What Is True Joy?


1 John 1:4

1 John 1:4 (ESV)


And we are writing these things so that our joy  
may be complete



**Aristotle**, a Greek philosopher from 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C. said, “Happiness is the meaning and the purpose of life, the whole aim and end of human existence.”



**Ralph Waldo Emerson**, a 19<sup>th</sup> century American poet, disagreed with Aristotle. Emerson suggested, “The purpose of life is NOT to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.”



John 15:11

These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

## Hebrews 12:2

looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.


# Galatians 5:19

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,

# Galatians 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,  
patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,





Psalm 16:11a

You make known to me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy;

## John 10:28-29

<sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

# Galatians 5:19

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,

## John 15:10-11

<sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

## 2 Corinthians 7:4

I am acting with great boldness toward you; I have great pride in you; I am filled with comfort. In all our affliction, I am overflowing with joy.

## James 1:2-3

<sup>2</sup> Count it all joy, my brothers, <sup>[b]</sup> when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

## 1 Peter 1:6-7

<sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.



Joy is not the absence of trouble or suffering  
But the presence of Christ

William Vander Haven