

Choose JOY

Sunday, July 22, 2018 Pastor Ray Cummings

James 1:2 (ESV)

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,

Part 3 – The 4:8 Principle!

Philippians 4:8 (ESV)

1. Living with Joy is our Birthright!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV)

16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

"Joy is an outward sign of inward faith in the promises of God"

Tommy Newberry

2. The Secret to a Joy-filled Life!

Philippians 4:8 (ESV)

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

- **"My thoughts are Showing"**

Proverbs 23:7 (NKJV)

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.

Proverbs 4:23 (NKJV)

Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.

Matthew 6:22 (NLT)

"Your eye is a lamp that provides light for your body.

When your eye is good, your whole body is filled with light.

Romans 12:2 (NLT)

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

2 Corinthians 10:5 (ESV)

We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

James 1:8 (ESV)

he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

- **"I could have had a 4:8!"**

Philippians 4:8 (MSG)

Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse.

**"You'd never invite a thief into your house.
So why would you allow thoughts that steal your joy
to make themselves at home in your mind?"**

Tommy Newberry

**"Remember that dwelling on your problems doesn't fix them;
It just makes you an expert on them."**

Tommy Newberry

**"You can unquestionably control what you choose to dwell on."
Tommy Newberry**