

Rejoice in the Lord ALWAYS Wednesday May 11, 2016

I don't always have to explain the process in which a word comes to me but I choose to. The reason I often choose to is for us to understand how engaged the Lord is with us. I was sitting, on Saturday morning, with my tablet wondering what I could do because I wasn't ready to start my day but wanted to do something at the same time. I stared at my tablet and chose to start writing this week's Wednesday word. Many topics came to my mind. When I opened biblegateway.com for research, the following verse hit me in the face (in a very good way). It was the verse of the day.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Today's message is two-fold. The main theme is about rejoicing; rejoicing is a direct command. The sub-theme is about how the Lord responds to us even when we put forth the most minimal effort. How much more does He respond when we put our all into Him; just saying.

Rejoice definitions:

**Feel or show great joy or delight*

[WITH OBJECT] **archaic Cause (bring) joy to*

Rejoice origin:

Middle English (in the sense 'cause joy to'): from Old French rejoiss-, lengthened stem of rejoir, from re- (expressing intensive force) + joir 'experience joy'.

In other words: 'to experience joy by expressing intensive force'.

I don't have to explain the word intense because we all know what it means. Again, I have shown an example of how the Lord responded to me as I put forth little effort. Imagine what can and will happen when we put forth intense effort to know Him and understand His ways. Whoa!!!!

I did a search of how many times the word 'rejoice' appears in the Bible. According to multiple sources the word 'rejoice' appears 190+ times in the Bible (that's not including other forms of this word). Is it important to God? I think so.

I have already provided one verse which says rejoicing, praying without ceasing, and giving thanks to the Lord in everything is the will of God. This is why I say rejoicing is a command from God. I will give other verses that speak about rejoicing and allow Holy Spirit to speak to each of us through them. 'Rejoice' is a verb which means it requires action. A little effort can go a long way but more effort moves things even further. How much effort will we express and how intense will we exhort that effort to express joy and "rejoice in the Lord"? The choice is ours.

[Leviticus 23:40; Deuteronomy 12:7,12,18; 14:26; 16:11,14,15; *26:11; 27:7]

1 Kings 16:7-10 - On that day David first delivered this psalm into the hand of Asaph and his brethren, to thank the Lord: 8 Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples! 9 Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works! 10 Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord!

Psalm 32:10-11 - Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; But he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him. 11 Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous; And shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

Psalm 33:20-22 - Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield. 21 For our heart shall rejoice in Him, Because we have trusted in His holy name. 22 Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, Just as we hope in You.

Philippians 4:4 - Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Pr7wcHTzcTg>

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=OaEH1e_DLm0

Other

Source:http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/rejoice

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