CHRISTIAN JOY

ROMANS 15:13



Joy is not based on circumstances, but on relationship with Jesus Christ and His indwelling Spirit.

"May the **God of hope** fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

Romans 15:13

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, selfcontrol; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."

Galatians 5:22-24

Joy does **not** mean there is always an absence of sadness or a feeling of exhilaration. Joy is rooted in the knowledge that God loves us unconditionally and has made a way for us to be in unfailing relationship with Him. You've heard that God wants you to be joyful, not necessarily happy. But the Word teaches us that God wants us to be joyful AND happy.

Our happiness should come from the things that make Him happy.

"It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are halfhearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

C.S. Lewis