

Joy Without Limits :
The Joy of Revival
GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sermon by Ray Reynolds

Text : II Chronicles 7:11-18

Introduction: Jesus commanded His disciples to be joyful. **John 15:11** says, “*These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.*” God is willing to allow nearly anything to happen to us if it means getting our attention. Why is it that we have to hit bottom before we decide to look up? In order to really experience the joy of Christianity we need to seek refreshing spirit of God.

Discussion:

I. We Need Humility

- A. Pride led to Satan’s fall (**Isaiah 14:13**).
- B. Josiah humbled himself (**II Kings 22:18-20**).
- C. Manasseh humbled himself (**II Chronicles 33:11-12**).
- D. Daniel humbled himself (**Daniel 10:12**).
- E. Humility must be sought by God’s people (**Zechariah 1:3**).

II. We Need Confession & Prayer

- A. This will lead us to forgiveness (**Psalm 32:5**).
- B. This will lead us to brokenness (**II Samuel 12**).
- C. This will lead us to cleansing (**Psalm 51**).
- D. This will lead us to healing (**James 5:16**).

III. We Need Reverence

- A. Seeking God’s face signifies persistence (**Matthew 7:7**).
- B. Seeking God’s face signifies dedication (**Numbers 6:24-26**).
- C. Seeking God’s face signifies relationship (**Matthew 6:9-13**).
- D. Seeking God’s face signifies good intentions (**Psalm 35:13**).
- E. Seeking God’s face signifies righteousness (**Ezra 8:21**).

IV. We Need Repentance

- A. Repentance reveals a contrite spirit (**Psalm 34:18**).
- B. Repentance reveals a humble spirit (**Isaiah 57:15**).
- C. Repentance reveals a holy spirit (**I Peter 5:5-7**).

V. *We Need Maturity*

- A. Maturity is a sign of a transformed life (**Romans 12:1-2**).
- B. Maturity is a sign of a joy filled life (**Romans 15:1**).
- C. Maturity is a sign of a secure life (**I John 5:13**).
- D. Maturity is a sign of a focused life (**John 21:15-17**).
- E. Maturity is a sign of a genuine life (**Psalms 51:10**).

VI. *We Need Unity*

- A. The unity of God's people reveals love (**John 13:34-35**).
- B. The unity of God's people reveals a bond (**Acts 1-2**).
- C. The unity of God's people reveals steadfastness (**I Corinthians 15:58**).

VII. *We Need Perseverance*

- A. We have to be patient (**Isaiah 40:31**).
- B. We have to be Christ-like (**Philippians 2:5**).
- C. We have to be faithful (**II Timothy 4:6-8**).

Conclusion: There is no reason why you cannot get the satisfaction of knowing God is with you and strengthening you. In this series we have already dealt with the joy of salvation. Do you know what you need to do to be saved? Now we see the need to be revived, restored, renewed, and refreshed. Do you know what it takes to experience revival? Each child of God should drink from the well of joy!!! Don't rob yourself of the blessings of God!!!