

□□□ FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT □□□

◆Galatians 5:22-23◆

- The fruit of the spirit is: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control

◆Acts 16◆

□□□ JOY □□□

Greek Words For Joy

- Chara - Joy
- Chairo - To Rejoice
- Charis - Grace

◆Matthew 2:10◆

- and having seen the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy

Biblical Joy

- "I see what God is doing and I have to participate in it"

◆Romans 8:18◆

- I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us

◆James 1:2◆

- Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds...

Sometimes our suffering is the perfect soil for the fruit of joy to grow

Two things that hinder the fruit of joy from growing in us

1. The pursuit of happiness
2. Grumbling

When our American rights supersede our Christian responsibilities, we have a problem.

◆Philippians 2:14-16◆

- Do everything without grumbling ...

The fruit of joy isn't grown by us forcing ourselves to be happy

◆◆◆ Questions ◆◆◆

1. How would you differentiate happiness & joy?
2. How has your pursuit of happiness gotten in the way of your pursuit of Jesus?
3. Have you ever seen something that God is doing and said "I have to participate in that"? Explain.
4. Have you seen someone or personally experienced joy in a season of suffering?
5. Do you grumble? When? What about? How is that holding you back from experiencing true joy?

▣ Announcements ▣

- Be sure to create your group events, message your group members ahead of time with meeting details, and close your group if full. And don't forget to take attendance each time you gather.▪