

Wednesday in the Word Bible Study

Wednesday, September 17, 2025 – 6:45 PM

Theme: “Complete Joy”

John 15:9–17 (NLT), focus v. 11

1. Opening Reflection

Begin by revisiting John 15:11 (NLT): “I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!”

Ask: “How is joy different from happiness in your life experiences?”

2. Biblical Context

Jesus speaks these words during His farewell discourse (John 13–17). He links joy to three anchors: abiding in His love, obedience to His commands, and friendship with Him. This joy is not seasonal or situational—it’s supernatural.

3. Supporting Scriptures

- a) Joy Comes from God’s Presence

Psalms 16:11 (NLT): “You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever.”

Example: Even in quiet prayer or worship, God’s presence brings peace that no material possession can supply.

- b) Joy is Strength in Struggle

Nehemiah 8:10 (NLT): “Don’t be dejected and sad, for the joy of the Lord is your strength!”

Example: A believer fighting illness but still declaring “God is good” illustrates strength rooted in joy.

- c) Joy Remains Despite Trials

James 1:2–3 (NLT): “When troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.”

Example: Someone who lost a job but used the season to grow in faith and ended up walking into a better opportunity.

- d) Joy is the Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22 (NLT): Joy is listed among the fruit of the Spirit.

Example: Spirit-led people don’t live in bitterness, but walk with joy that influences their family, workplace, and community.

4. Real-Life Application

- Family Life: Joy transforms a house into a home. It's not about a big house but about a spirit of love and laughter within it.
- Workplace: A Christian's joy can shine in stressful environments, shifting the atmosphere.
- Community: Joy is contagious; one person's joy can lift a whole congregation or workplace.

5. Discussion Questions

1. What's one time you experienced joy even in hardship?
2. How can we remain connected to Christ in practical ways daily?
3. What are some obstacles that try to steal our joy, and how can we guard against them?
4. How does obedience lead to joy in your walk with God?
5. Who in your life needs to see your joy overflow this week?

6. Takeaway Points

- Joy is Christ-Centered, not Circumstantial.
- Obedience unlocks joy.
- Friendship with Jesus makes joy complete.
- Joy is strength in the storm and light in the darkness.

7. Closing Prayer

Lord, thank You for a joy that this world cannot give or take away. Help us remain connected to You, obedient to Your Word, and confident in our friendship with Jesus. Let our joy overflow into our families, workplaces, and communities. In Jesus' name, Amen.