
James Crawford – Got Divine Joy? 7 Ways To Get It - Pt 3
“How To Be a Happy Person” Series

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10-9-22

Introduction

We are created by God to walk in His Divine joy, and He deposits it into us in various ways. Have you noticed that most people on the earth are either sad, mad, or discontent? This message is designed to teach you how to experience Divine joy. It has the power to change your attitude, life & destiny from the inside out!

Romans 15:13

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

7 Ways To Get Divine Joy

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1. **Become a Whole-Hearted Disciple**

To encounter God’s Divine joy we start with surrendering our lives to Him.

The Sad Rich Young Ruler

17 Now as He was going out on the road, one came running, knelt before Him, and asked Him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?”

18 So Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. 19 You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not bear false witness,’ ‘Do not defraud,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’ ”

20 And he answered and said to Him, “Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth.” 21 Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.”

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22 But **he was sad** at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

The Joyful Whole-Hearted Disciples

Matthew 19:27

Then Peter answered Him, saying, “Look, **we have given up everything** and followed You [becoming Your disciples and accepting You as Teacher and Lord]; what then will there be for us?”

Acts 13:52

And **the disciples were filled with joy** and with the Holy Spirit.

2. Tap Into The Power of The Spirit

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy...so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Through spiritual gift impartation, prayer, fasting & Bible study.

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3. Discover The Joy of Asking & Receiving From The Father

John 16:24

Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

Ask for finances, healing, destiny encounters, a better job, a spouse, family restoration, dietary wisdom, angelic encounters, prophetic dreams, visions, and words etc.

Get ready for God to rock your world!

4. Help Us Make Disciples

Paul writes, "What is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? **For you are our glory and joy.**"

(1 Thessalonians 2:19–20).

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5. Learn To Accept Spiritual Dryness

Spiritual dryness teaches us faithfulness. This test yields our reward of joy unspeakable!

Deut. 8

2 And you shall remember that **the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you**, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.

3 So **He humbled you, allowed you to hunger**, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord.

4 Your garments did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years. 5 You should know in your heart that as a man chastens his son, so the Lord your God chastens you.

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6 “Therefore you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways and to fear Him. 7 For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, that flow out of valleys and hills;

8 a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; 9 a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you can dig copper.

10 When you have eaten and are full, then you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land which He has given you.

11 “Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today,

12 lest—when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; 13 and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied;

14 when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; 15 who led you through that great and terrible

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wilderness, in which were fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty land where there was no water; who brought water for you out of the flinty rock;

16 who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end—17 then you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.’

18 “And you shall remember the Lord your God, for **it is He who gives you power to get wealth...**

6. **Learn To Be Content in Smallness**

Self-promotion is a sure joy-quencher. Being faithful in the little keeps us bonded with Jesus and our joy is full there. Be careful not to become bored and casual. Rather stay on fire to be constant in prayer and exercise rapid fire obedience.

When we get ahead of God we are carnal and the fruit of our carnality is anxiety, fear & pressure. Joy is thus quenched.

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Mother Teresa said, "Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.

7. **Keep Your Eye On The Eternal Prize**

Our joy will always be fleeting here on earth, but one day it will be constant. Reflecting on this reality releases more joy here on earth!

Matthew 25

20 "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents...21 His lord said to him, '**Well done**, good and faithful servant; **you were faithful over a few things**, I will make you ruler over many things. **Enter into the joy of your lord.**'

Well done! Jesus will affirm faithful believers before the Father and the angels.

Rev. 3:5

5 He who overcomes...I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels."

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Some believe that their life in God only matters if it impacts many people. Our life assignment may be small in man’s eyes, but it is so important in God’s eyes that He greatly rewards those who are faithful in it.

“Faithfulness in little things is a great thing” (Hudson Taylor).