

# Evolution of Faith

## Week #4: From Momentary Happiness to Inexpressible Joy

Inexpressible Joy—Too often Christians see joy as something that has to wait until heaven. But Peter tells us that we can be filled with an inexpressible joy right here and now as faith fills us with the joy of knowing Jesus as our Savior. Text: 1 Peter 1:8-9

What is **robbing** you of your joy?

- 1 Peter 1:8a - *...you have not seen him...even though you do not see him now.*
- 1 Peter 1:8,9 - *Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - *Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

As faith evolves, joy **overflows** because:

I know the **Good News!** (Luke 2:10-11)

I am **saved**. (Psalm 13:5)

My name is written in **heaven**. (Luke 10:20)

My God rejoices over **me**. (Zephaniah 3:17)

My God is so **good**. (Psalm 145:6-8)

No thing or person can **take it away**. (John 16:22)

- Philippians 4:4 - *Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!*
- 1 Peter 2:2,3 - *2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.*

**Roots** —> **Fruit** = **Evolution of Faith**

### **Points to Ponder**

- 1) What 1 thing in your life right now is robbing you of your joy on a regular or repeated basis? What passage or section of Scripture will you commit to memory to remind you that because of Jesus your joy overflows?
- 2) What was your one big take away from the Evolution of Faith? What will you do to keep that truth in front of you so that your faith continues to evolve in the next 30 days?
- 3) Roots → Fruit = Evolution of Faith. Which one of the 5 roots (the 5 G's), do you want to focus on and plant deeper roots so that you produce fruits so that your faith continues to evolve and grow? Share which root it is with a member of your Group or Family and also share 2-3 specific actions steps you will implement to carry it out with God's help.

***Homework: John 15:9-17***