

# The Fruit of the Spirit is Joy

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**TEXT:** Galatians 5:22; John 15:8-11

## Introduction:

- If we \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ, then we will remain in his love. The result of this is \_\_\_\_\_. And the fruit of the spirit \_\_\_\_\_.
- We need to live our life, and our life together, \_\_\_\_\_ to the true vine. We need to bear the fruit of the spirit.

## The Vine & Branches:

- 1. Joy is directed \_\_\_\_\_.
  - He does not say, “do this and you will be \_\_\_\_\_” or “I am \_\_\_\_\_ this so I can be joyous.”
  - The loving, vine & branches, obeying Christ, asking & receiving relationship leads to a \_\_\_\_\_: Christ takes joy in us and our joy is made complete because we take joy \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Joy is something altogether \_\_\_\_\_ that entertainment and pleasure.
- 2. Joy can \_\_\_\_\_ even in suffering and difficulty.
  - Notice that branches are sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ so that they will become more fruitful.
  - A survey of the apostle’s teachings on joy will show you that joy can \_\_\_\_\_ in the midst of great difficulty.
    - Mature and complete! Joy grows out of the stoniest and \_\_\_\_\_ of soils, but it is one the sweetest of fruits and if you have ever experienced joy grown in suffering or difficult circumstance.

## Cultural Hindrances to Joy

- 1. Joy is too often \_\_\_\_\_ with pleasure.
- 2. We are bombarded by attempts to \_\_\_\_\_ desire.
  - *This becomes most detrimental to cultivating joy when the cycle of manufacturing and gratifying desire becomes an endless pursuit of happiness.*
- 3. And our culture too often equates happiness with \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Finally, joy is choked out by the weeds of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## How do we cultivate joy?

- 1. Joy grows by \_\_\_\_\_ your God, because of who He is and what He has done.
- 2. Joy thrives in \_\_\_\_\_, because joy draws us outside ourselves.
- 3. Joy is nurtured by \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Joy is realized in our \_\_\_\_\_ from the law.