

October 18, 2020
“Seeking Joy!”
(Philippians 4:4-9)

Our passage today has one _____. It offers us clear and practical _____ on how to find joy in our lives.

Catholic spiritual director Frederick von Hugel says: *“There is no such thing as a _____ saint.”*

Paul doesn’t just tell us how to find joy. He _____ us to be joyful.

Notice Paul tells us what to do - _____; how to do it - _____, and how often to do it - _____.

There are 3 essential steps to take to a life of **rejoicing!**...

#1. – Replace _____ with trust in God.

We experience thousands of _____ each day.

God’s character consists of _____ and _____.

When we can’t see God in our _____, then we lose _____.

Trying not to **worry** is like trying **not** to think about green _____!

Instead of trying to force the _____ away, replace your worry with thoughts focused on God’s _____!

When we

#2. – Develop a _____ attitude.

An attitude of gratitude reminds us that God is _____ with us in all our circumstances!

If we can see God in _____ circumstance, good or bad, then we can move _____ with hope.

(over)

#3. – Focus your thoughts on that which is _____ and _____.

Have you noticed that as a society, we have become increasingly _____ - our language, our entertainment, things we value?

The reason is that our _____ reflect those of our _____ rather than those of God!

According to Dr. David Reisman, we have become an _____ - directed society rather than an _____-directed society.

When you _____ with God and trust in God, your thoughts will _____ the character of God.

Your ability to see God in your circumstances will _____ your _____ world. - That’s where **joy** comes from!

When we walk with God, we are able to take the _____ view of our lives.

As followers of Jesus, we carry around a kingdom in our _____! We are _____ of the Most High God!

We are recipients of God’s promises and God’s incredibly gracious love and mercy.

If we really understand that, our JOY will overflow!

The God of peace will then be with you and you will be able to REJOICE in the Lord always!....”and again I say, rejoice!”

God wants YOU to experience a life of JOY!