







Freedom to Live in Love
Autumn, 2011

Philippians 4:4-9
4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!
5 Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near.
6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.



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7 *And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

8 *Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute,*

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On Blue Ridge

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if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

9 *The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.*

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Jump For Joy!

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The Christian should be an alleluia
from head to foot!
- Augustine



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Jump For Joy!



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We are known more for our
frowning on things
than rejoicing in things.




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Jump For Joy!




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However, if we are in training for a life characterized by joy, peace, and affection, we should assume that some of the practices are going to be downright enjoyable... The story of the human race is not just one of universal disappointment, but one of inextinguishable hope.
- John Ortberg



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Joy is the serious business of heaven.
- C.S. Lewis




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Don't Try To Be God




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Spiritual stability is directly related to
how a person thinks about God.
- John MacArthur




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Don't Try To Be God




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I am in a state of dis-appointment.
I am missing the life that I was appointed
by God to live--missing my calling.
And I have dis-appointed God. I have
removed him from the central role he
longs to play in my life; I have refused to
"let God be God" and have appointed
myself in his place.
- John Ortberg




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Don't Try To Be God



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*8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true,
whatever is honorable, whatever is right,
whatever is pure, whatever is lovely,
whatever is of good repute, if there is any
excellence and if anything worthy of
praise, dwell on these things.*




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Celebrate Good



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Each person is created to see a different facet of God's beauty--something no one else can see in quite the same way--and then to bless all worshipers through all eternity with an aspect of God they could not see otherwise.
- C.S. Lewis




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Celebrate Good



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We are invited to rejoice in every moment of life because every moment of life is a gift.

We don't earn it, can't control it, can't take a moment of it for granted.

Every tick of the clock is a gift from God.

- John Ortberg



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Train Don't Try



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God has given us the Disciplines of the spiritual life as a means of receiving his grace. The Disciplines allow us to place ourselves before God so that he can transform us. By themselves the Spiritual Disciplines can do nothing; they can only get us to the place where something can be done.
- Foster, Richard J.




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Celebration gives us the strength to live in all the other Disciplines.
When faithfully pursued, the other Disciplines bring us deliverance from those things that have made our lives miserable for years which, in turn, evokes increased celebration.
- Foster, Richard J.




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Train Don't Try




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5a Let your gentle spirit be known to all men.




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Matthew 5:13-16
 13 "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless(mashed potatoes), how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men.
 14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden;



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*15 nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.
 16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

