



The Power of Joy, Part 2

Psalm 32:1-5; 2 Corinthians 2:7-11; 6:10; 12:9; Matthew 6:12, 14-15

Psalm 32



- When David wrote Psalm 32, he was one of the greatest sinners portrayed anywhere in the Bible.
- Psalm 32 is a joyful testimony from David thanking God for His gift of forgiveness.
- Joy resides in the knowledge that we are a child of God, and He cares for us.
- Being humble before the Lord is a critical key to experiencing the *“joy of the Lord.”*
- God forgives and does not hold our sins over our heads.
- Confession is the foundation for receiving forgiveness and the return of joy.

Matthew 6

A person is shown from the back, wearing a red t-shirt and blue jeans, with their arms raised in a gesture of prayer or praise. The background is a textured, brownish-gold surface. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

- We are to ask our Father to forgive our debts and transgressions against Him, as we forgive our debtors of their transgressions against us.
- Because God forgives us our transgressions against Him, He no longer holds resentment towards us.
- God only sees us, not our transgressions!
- When we refuse to let go of the feelings of hurt, it separates us from our fellowship with God to the point that He cannot give us His joy.
- When we are in unforgiveness, we are not in God's secret place, and we are not under the shadow of His protection.

Unforgiveness



- When a person holds unforgiveness against someone, they become adept at hiding their true thoughts and feelings about that person.
- When a person holds unforgiveness against someone, they convince themselves that it is okay to live a lie and believe that whatever happens that person deserved it.
- Instead of holding unforgiveness, we should release the one who wronged us and see them in the same light that God sees us.
- Joy was more important to Paul than surrendering to the emotion of unforgiveness.
- We are to comfort one another just like God comforts us.

Conclusion



- Always forgive any wrong done to you.
- Those who hold unforgiveness, have a barrier that God cannot cross with His love and with His joy.
- Unforgiveness impacts our emotional, physical and spiritual well-being.
- The joy of the Lord cannot be your strength at the same time you are walking in unforgiveness.
- Is the joy of the Lord your strength, or are you hindered by unforgiveness in your life?