

Choose Joy



Are you a glass half full or half empty kind of person? Typically, our answer to that question determines how easy it is to live gratefully.

As I read through the scriptures about thankfulness and gratefulness, I don't find that the call to be grateful should be dependent upon our natural tendencies.

There's a verse in Philippians, which is often called the book of joy. In Philippians 4:4 it says, "Rejoice, and again I say rejoice."

In this passage, our rejoicing is based both on the great joy we have in Jesus and on our relationships with each other.

The Message emphasizes the latter even more strongly than some other translations:

Celebrate God all day, every day. I mean, revel in Him! Make it as clear as you can to all you meet that you're on their side, working with them and not against them.

Philippians 4:4, The Message

This makes me reflect on how being one another's biggest fans and having each others' back strongly impacts our joy and gratefulness.

Our relationships with Jesus and with each other are so very closely related. I would even go so far as to say that our joy and attitude of gratitude is directly connected to our support of and genuine affection for people in our lives.

In light of this verse, my prayer for you and for WellSpring today is that we support each other in public and private like no other, and that our love for Jesus is daily growing. In doing so, our joy will be overflowing.

Rejoicing,

Pastor Scott