

# Joyful Mother of Children

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## I. Introduction.

- A. Joy is a particular property of a Christian. Inviting Jesus into one's life comes first.
- B. Text: Psalm 113:9.
- C. The occasion of having a baby is supposed to be joyous. (Luke 1:14, 46-49)
- D. There are challenges in parenting.

## II. Where we cannot find joy.

- A. In possessions.
- B. In circumstances because they change.
- C. In people.

## III. Real sources of joy.

- A. God himself. (Psalm 104:34; 43:4; Philippians 4:4; Luke 1:47)
- B. Our salvation: we know we are forgiven. (Isaiah 12:2; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Psalm 51:7-8, 12)
  - 1. Forgiveness.
  - 2. Your name written in heaven. (Luke 10:20)
  - 3. Safety and security. (Psalm 63:7)
- C. Realizing God's presence. (Acts 2:28; Deuteronomy 33; Psalm 125:2)
- D. Being filled with God's Spirit. (Acts 13:52; Galatians 5:22-23)
- E. Believing God. (Romans 15:13; 1 Peter 1:8)

## IV. Secrets to making the sources of joy part of our lives.

- A. Source 1: God himself.
  - 1. Focus on God and not on circumstances. (Habakkuk 3:17-18; 2 Corinthians 6:10)
  - 2. Delight in God. (Psalm 37:4)
  - 3. Meditate on God. (Psalm 94:19; 104:34)
  - 4. Spend much time talking to God. (John 16:24; Psalm 105:3)

5. Seek God.
6. Give his Word priority. (Jeremiah 15:16; John 15:11)
7. Keep track of Scriptures that tell you how much God loves you. (Zephaniah 2:17)

B. Source 2: our salvation.

1. Do not harbor sin. (Psalm 32:1-6; 126:1-6)

C. Source 3: realizing God's presence.

1. Practice God's presence.
2. Sing to God. (Psalm 138:1)
3. Praise God.

D. Source 4: being filled with the Spirit.

1. Serve him gladly. (Psalm 100:2)
2. Be available to God and be controlled by him.

E. Source 5: believing God.

1. Choose to be joyful by an act of the will. (Psalm 118:24; 1 Thessalonians 5:18)
2. Have no confidence in the flesh and trust God. (Nehemiah 8:10; Psalm 118:14; 2 Corinthians 12:10)
3. Believe that hardships are God's instruments for joy. (James 1:2-4; Colossians 1:11; Psalm 16:5-11)

**Application questions:**

1. What false sources of joy do you find yourself pursuing?

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2. Which source of joy would you most like to develop?

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3. What is your plan for developing that source of joy? Explain.

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