

WEEK 3: Joy (*Chara*)

Walk by the Spirit... The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:16, 22-23)

	Joy	Rejoice	Glad	Merry	Happy	Blessed	Other
Psalms 21:6	✓		✓			✓	
Psalms 68:3	✓		✓		✓		Exult, Jubilant
Ecclesiastes 9:7	✓		✓	✓	✓		Cheerful
Isaiah 65:18	✓	✓	✓				
Jeremiah 31:13		✓	✓	✓			
Luke 1:14	✓	✓	✓				Delight
Luke 6:23	✓	✓					Leap for Joy

1) How are Joy and **GOD** related?

- Zephaniah 3:14-17
- John 15:11
- 1 Timothy 1:11
- Hebrews 1:8-9

“If we say the gospel won’t bring happiness, any perceptive listener should respond, ‘Then how is it good news?’ We need to reverse the trend. Let’s redeem the word *happiness* in light of both Scripture and church history. Our message shouldn’t be ‘Don’t seek happiness,’ but ‘You’ll find in Jesus the happiness you’ve always longed for.’”

Randy Alcorn,
Happiness, p. 44

2) How are Joy and **SORROW** related?

Jesus: man of sorrows (Isa. 53:3), *anger* (Mark 3:5), *weeping* (John 11:35), *agony* (Luke 22:44).

- John 16:20-22 Sorrow can TURN TO joy.
- Colossians 1:24 Sorrow can COEXIST WITH joy.
- James 1:2-4 Sorrow can BE COUNTED AS joy.

3) How are Joy and “**FLESH**” related?

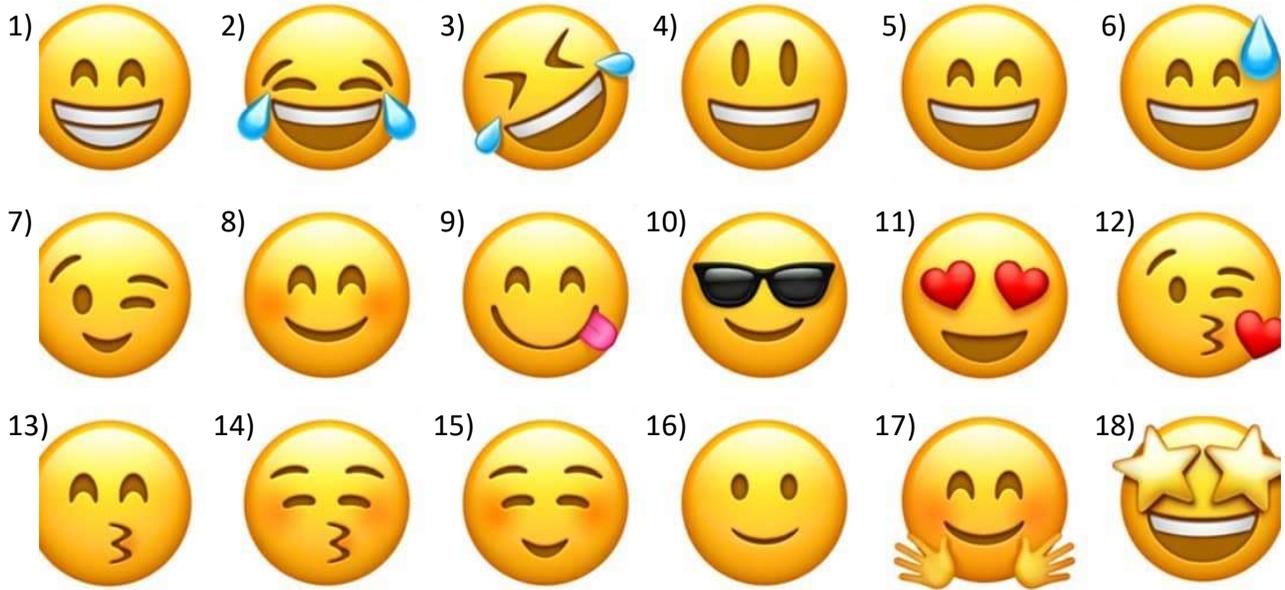
Galatians 5:19-20 (“At [God’s] right hand are pleasures forevermore” Psalm 16:11.)

[HOW TO JOY?] ✗ Fake joy ✗ Suppress joy ✗ Hoard joy ✗ Natural joy
 ✓ Give / Share Joy (“Rejoice with those who rejoice...” Romans 12:15.)

SUMMARY:

- Many words (like *happiness* or *blessed*) are equated with joy in the Bible as synonyms.
- Sorrow does not necessarily push out joy, but it can coexist with and even cultivate joy.
- Sin does mimic the experience of joy, but only joy of the Spirit is deep and lasting.

"A glad heart makes a cheerful face" (Proverbs 15:13a)



Which emoji would you say best matches each of the following:

A. Happy _____

E. Cheerful _____

B. Glad _____

F. Jubilant _____

C. Blessed _____

G. Merry _____

D. Pleased _____

H. Joyful _____