

# Seeking Joy Through Words

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Psalm 119:169-176

\* Scripture Reading: 119:97-112

*Genesis 2:23, "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man"*

*Proverbs 31:28-29, "Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her: 29 "Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all."*

## 1.) The Scripture as a Pursuit of Joy

*2 Corinthians 1:24, "but are fellow workers for your joy"*

*Deuteronomy 32:46-47, "Set your hearts on all the words which I testify among you today, which you shall command your children to be careful to observe— all the words of this law. 47 For it is not a futile thing for you, because it is your life,"*

*Matthew 4:4, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."*

Read v16, 111, 97

Read verse 111

*Romans 15:13, "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing..."*

*Philippians 1:25, "I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith."*

*"he opened it and picked up reading 1 Timothy 1: 'It is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be embraced, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am the chief and principal.' This one sentence, through God's instruction and inward working, which I did not then perceive, did so exhilarate my heart, being before wounded with the guilt of my sins, and being almost in despair, that...immediately I...felt a marvelous comfort and quietness, in so much that 'my bruised bones leaped for joy.' After this, the*

*Scriptures began to be more pleasant to me than the honey or the honeycomb.”—Bill Nee*

*Proverbs 3:13, “Happy is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding”*

## **2.) Prayer as a Pursuit of Joy**

Read verse 169, 170, 171, 172, 175

*“everything we do in the christian life is easier than prayer” —Martin Lloyd-Jones*

*“there is nothing we are so bad at in all our days as prayers.” —Alexander White*

*“I find in my own case, the principal cause of my leanness and unfruitfulness is owing to an unaccountable backwardness to pray. I can write, or read, or converse, or hear, with a ready will—but prayer is more spiritual and inward than any of these; and the more spiritual any duty is—the more my carnal heart is apt to draw aside from it.” —John Newton*

*“there are times in my life when I would rather die than pray.” — Thomas Shepherd*

*“Let the holiest and best thing we do be considered. We are never better affected unto God than when we pray; yet when we pray, how are our affections many times distracted! How little reverence do we show to the grand majesty of that God unto Whom we speak! How little remorse of our own miseries! How little taste of the sweet influence of His tender mercy do we feel! Are we not as unwilling many times to begin, and as glad to make an end, as if God, in saying “Call upon me,” had set us a very burdensome task?” — Richard Hooker*

*“I was astonished that although I now loved You... I did not persist in enjoyment of my God. Your beauty drew me to You, but soon I was dragged away from You by my own weight and in dismay, I plunged again into the things of this world... as though I had sensed the fragrance of the fare but was not yet able to eat it.” —Augustine*

*Psalms 43:4, “Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy..”*

*Ezekiel 36:37-38, "Thus says the Lord God: "I will also let the house of Israel inquire of Me to do this for them: I will increase their men like a flock...so shall the ruined cities be filled with flocks of men. Then they shall know that I am the Lord."*

*"is a liberating and devastating doctrine. It teaches that the value of God shines more brightly in the soul that finds deepest satisfaction in him. Therefore it is liberating because it endorses our inborn desire for joy." —John Piper*