



Joy!
Perspective Matters

Philippians 4:4

The Old Testament...

Genesis

Nehemiah

Hosea

Exodus

Esther

Joel

Leviticus

Job

Amos

Numbers

Psalms

Obadiah

Deuteronomy

Proverbs

Jonah

Joshua

Ecclesiastes

Micah

Judges

Song of Solomon

Nahum

Ruth

Isaiah 9:6

Habakkuk

I & II Samuel

Jeremiah

Zephaniah

I & II Kings

Lamentations

Haggai

I & II Chronicles

Ezekiel

Zechariah

Ezra

Daniel

Malachi



2012 Theme:

Rejoice in the Lord always!

Philippians 4:4

A painting depicting four women in white dresses dancing in a field. The women are captured in dynamic, mid-air poses, with their arms raised and bodies arched. The background consists of horizontal, textured brushstrokes in shades of brown and tan, suggesting a field or a wall. The overall style is expressive and somewhat abstract.

We need to gain perspective:
What is right with this picture?

A painting depicting four women in white dresses dancing joyfully in a field. They have their arms raised, and their hair is blowing in the wind, suggesting a sense of freedom and happiness. The background is a warm, textured landscape with horizontal bands of color.

Joy and rejoicing need not be so elusive.



I. Being honest with my **fears** ...

A. Afraid of being lumped in with some of my **insensitive** brothers and sisters in Christ.

B. Afraid to claim joy because it might be **taken away**.

C. Afraid that I might come off as **insensitive**.

D. Afraid that at the end of the year I will have **no more joy** than I have right now.

E. But my fears all have one thing in common... they are focused on **me**.

II. Being honest with my convictions ...

A. My joy is my responsibility!


B. The New Testament persistently teaches that we can and should be people of joy.

- 74 times the NT uses the word for joy / rejoice.

- 11 times the NT uses the word for exuberant joy.

C. The OT: "Joy is... shown to be the natural outcome of fellowship with God (ISBE)."

D. To become people of joy means learning to hold what we have with an open hand.



circle the words joy or rejoice
every time you see them in your Bibles.

Let's learn to Rejoice in the Lord always!

Again I say Rejoice.

Reach • Teach • Care • Praise • Blaze



Rejoice in the Lord always!

Philippians 4:4