

MESSAGE NOTES

“I Declare” series
“I Will Choose Joy”

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Crossroads Christian Church
January 23 & 26, 2025

I declare, with God’s help and the power of the Holy Spirit,

I will choose to live _____!

Jesus has forgiven my past and secured my future so

I can be _____ in the present, no matter the

_____.

1 Thessalonians 5:16; Philippians 1:12–20

1. I need a _____ to live from.

Philippians 1:12; Philippians 4:22

- Unbelievers will be impressed by your joy.

2. I need a _____ to live by.

- Your life will either be shaped by your _____ ...
or your _____.

John 15:10-11

3. I need a _____ to live on.

Philippians 1:18-20

1. His friends in Philippi _____ for him!

2. The Holy Spirit provided a supernatural source of _____!

Philippians 4:13; Romans 14:17

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SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

For the week of January 26, 2025

1. What are the priorities in your life right now, and how do they shape your actions and decisions?
2. How can we distinguish between what pressures us and what should be our godly priorities?
3. What does it mean to be joyful in all circumstances, as instructed in **1 Thessalonians 5:16**? How does this command challenge your natural responses to life's difficulties?

How can we cultivate a spirit of joy despite whatever it is we are going through?

4. In **Philippians 1:18-20**, Paul talks about being empowered by the Holy Spirit to rejoice even in challenging circumstances. How have you experienced the power of the Holy Spirit enabling you to remain joyful?
5. Read **Philippians 1:12** and **Philippians 4:22**. How does Paul's perspective about his imprisonment inspire us to find joy, even in difficult circumstances?

Have you ever had someone's joy in hardship impact you or someone else? Share an example.

6. If you are a Christian, then you are aware of what you have been forgiven from. How can the understanding of our forgiven past and secured future empower us to be joyful today, no matter the pressures we face?

7. What is one area of your life where you are struggling to maintain joy? What steps can you take this week to refocus on the joy that comes from Christ's forgiveness and promises?

NOTES _____

PRAYER REQUESTS _____