



## Unimaginable Joy

**Listen!** If I could have one wish and a guarantee that I would receive anything at all I know what I would ask for. What would you ask for?

- **Life Tension:** How in the world could we ever get joy and then keep joy?
- **Joy Defined:** The settled, inner certainty of personal wellbeing, gladness, delight.
  - C. S. Lewis called joy “the enormous bliss that once experienced a person wants nothing else.”
  - Joy is not happiness:
  - Happiness is based on \_\_\_\_\_ circumstances:
  - Joy is based on \_\_\_\_\_ circumstances:

**The Joy Available in the Past:**

**The Joy Available in the Present:**

**The Joy Available in the Future:**

**The Core Reality:** The only genuine Source of joy is God Himself and as it turns out God Himself is greater than joy.

- C. S. Lewis who said that once joy is experienced it is the thing that a person wants again more than anything else, changed his mind and he later said, “To tell you the truth, the subject (of joy) has lost nearly all interest to me since I became a Christian.”
- “Behold I bring you good news of *great joy* for unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, Who is *Christ the Lord.*” Luke 2:10
- Christ the Lord is greater than great joy.
- The Joy Candle

# “Walking Papers”

Practical helps for walking the Christian walk each day this week.

**The Core Reality:** The only genuine Source of joy is God Himself and as it turns out God Himself is greater than joy.

- **Sunday:** Have you ever personally experienced joy? Do you know what caused it? Can you describe how it felt? How long did you have it? Can you get it back at will?
- **Monday:** List the happy things you have experienced in your life—just the major ones—those feelings based on visible realities.
- **Tuesday:** List the joyful things you have experienced in your life—just the major ones—those feelings based on invisible realities.
- **Wednesday:** Please read the following verses and reflect on the message they give about joy in the past. Matthew 13:44. Matthew 2:10. Luke 2:10. Luke 1:14. Luke 15:7, 10.
- **Thursday:** Please read the following verses and reflect on the message they give about joy in the present. Galatians 5:22, 23. John 15:11. Acts 13:52. James 1:2.
- **Friday:** Please read the following verses and reflect on the message they give about joy future. Jude 24, 25.
- **Saturday:** Please read the two C. S. Lewis quotes on the outline on the opposite side of this page and reflect on them.
- **Bonus Idea.** Please reflect on the core idea of this week and consider the applications for your life right now:
  - **The Core Reality:** The only genuine Source of joy is God Himself and as it turns out God Himself is greater than joy.

*Note for Connection Groups:* The full study guide for small group and personal study is available at: [www.cypressbible.org](http://www.cypressbible.org) and then click on “Get Connected” and the link is on that page.