

The fruit of the Spirit is ... joy (Galatians 5:22)

Introduction

- Give the reference to a biblical verse about happiness.
- Is the Bible positive about happiness?

i What is joy

- What is joy?
- The standard Hebrew word for joy is חַמְסֵה . What does it mean?
- The standard Greek word for joy is $\chi\alpha\rho\alpha$. What does it mean?
- What is distinctive about Christian joy?
- Give a few examples of joy which Christians and non-Christians can both feel.
- Why do none of them last for ever?
- What does Psalm 43:4 say about Christian joy?
- So where does our joy come from?
- Why does this make it the best kind of joy?
- Are you a joyful Christian?
- What you need to do if you are not a Christian?

ii How can you nurture joy?

- What does Paul give in Galatians 5:13 – 6:10?
- Why is it important that he does?
- What are we free from and what are we not free from?
- What goes on in the heart of every Christian?
- What are the two sides and what do they want you to do?
 - (i)
 - (ii)
- How, according to v16, can we win any of battles in the Christian life?
- When we live by the Spirit, what do we produce?
- So how can we nurture joy?
- What does it mean to live by the Spirit?
- How can you avoid being a fruitless Christian?

iii Why is joy so important?

- Give a few reasons why joy is important.
- What will happen to us if we are joyful Christians?