

CHOOSING HAPPINESS

Emotions Series #6

- Deuteronomy 12:12 – ***“You shall REJOICE before the Lord your God you and your sons and your daughters.”***
- Psalm 46:16 – ***“May all those who seek you (LORD) be happy and rejoice in you.”***
- Psalm 98:4 – ***“Shout triumphantly to the Lord all the earth be happy rejoice out loud.”***
- Luke 10:20 – ***“Rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”***
- Psalm 81:1 – ***“Be happy and shout to God who makes us strong.”***
- Philippians 4:4 – ***“Rejoice and be full of joy in the Lord I say again rejoice.”***
- Proverbs 15:15 – ***“All the days of the afflicted are evil but the cheerful of heart has a continual feast.”***

God wants HIS children to be happy, joyful and blessed.

Three CHOICES We Need to Make to Be Happy:

1. CHOOSE to be CONNECTED TO GOD.

- Ecclesiastes 3:11 – ***Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God’s work from beginning to end.***
- John 1:12 – ***Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.***
- Matthew 22:37-38 – ***“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.”***
- John 15:5-6 – ***“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers.”***

2. CHOOSE to be CONNECTED to one another (v. 39).

- Matt 22:39-40 – ***And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”*** (See also Lev 19:18)
- Genesis 2:18 – ***The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make an ideal partner for him.”***
- John 13:34 – ***“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”***
- 1 Cor 12:7, 12-14 – ***Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts***

form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

3. **CHOOSE HAPPINESS.**

Matthew 7:7-12 – *“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.*

Deuteronomy 30:19 – *I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live,*

“Happiness is a moral obligation.”

(Don't forget: “Do unto others...”)