

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

MAKE IT MAKE SENSE

A STUDY ON JOY

CONTEXT

In this episode, we want to continue looking at the how of studying scripture and provide you with tools to help you in your personal study. When it comes to scripture, all words matter. All Scripture is God-breathed, so every word has purpose and meaning. In this session we're going to work through word studies on the words joy and rejoice.

How to Conduct a Word Study

- i. Read the text in multiple translations (NASB, NIV, ESV, and NLT), looking for differences in translations for specific words.
- ii. Count the frequency of certain words in your chosen passage. Words that appear more often or words that are rare are good candidates.
- iii. Find the original language word in a word study resource (Concordance or Bible Dictionary).
 - a) This will help you find the other occurrences of the word.
 - b) When looking at other occurrences make sure you read inside/out (start with book, go to other books written by author (if applicable), then the OT/NT usage of the word.
- iv. Identify the definition of the word and all the ways it is translated in Scripture (blueletterbible.org is a good resource for this)
- v. Questions to Ask
 - a) How does this word connect with the larger biblical story?
 - b) What kind of word meaning seem most likely intended by the author?
 - c) What kinds of word meaning can determine are unlikely interpretations?

Joy Word Study

- i. Philippians 1:1-30 (Context: Paul imprisoned; Acts 19-had previously been jailed in Philippi) (Greek: *chara*)
 - a) *Read in multiple translations:* All major translations use "joy" where it occurs.
 - b) *Same book:* Paul uses the word joy two times in Philippians 1 and five times to total in Philippians. (Philippians 1:4, 25; 2:2; 2:29; 4:1)
 - c) *Author's writings:* Paul uses the word joy 21 times in all of his writings. By far more than any other letter or epistle not written by Paul in the New Testament.
 - 1) Describes the kingdom of god as righteousness, peace, and **joy** in the Holy Spirit. (Romans 14:17)
 - 2) The Thessalonians received Paul's words with great affliction and **joy**. (1 Thessalonians 1:6)
 - d) *Old Testament usages:* Hebrew-*simhah*

- 1) The feeling of jubilation for victory over enemies.
 - (1) When David returns from successful battle, women sang songs of **joy**. (1 Samuel 18:6)
 - 2) Emotion felt that expresses a sense of gratitude.
 - (1) When the foundation of the temple is laid again in Ezra, priests and Levites wept and had **joy**. (Ezra 3:12)
 - 3) Fullness expressed in God's presence.
 - (1) Psalmist expressed that God makes known the path of life and that **joy** is found in His presence (Psalm 16:11)
- e) *New Testament*: Matthew (6), Mark (1), Luke (8), John (2), Revelation (1)
- ii. Mark 4:16 "...receive it with **joy**."
 - a) The only time joy appears in Mark. But indicates that joy can be impacted by persecution and tribulation.
 - iii. John 15:11 and 1 John 1:4 The fullness of joy the Psalmist wrote about is now consummated in the gospel and life of Christ.