

HOW CAN WE BE HAPPY?

INTRO.:

A. Text: John 15:11.

B. Regarding the text:

1. Most people want to be happy.
2. In our present-day world, how can a Christian be happy?
3. God wants us to be happy. In fact, He wants us to have complete happiness (John 15:11; 1 John 1:4).

DISCUSSION: HOW DO WE FIND TRUE HAPPINESS?

I. KEEP GOD CLOSE.

A. Hold on to His hand (Isaiah 41:13; Psalms 63:7-8 Vs.7).

B. Some things to remember.

1. We are God's children (Psalm 100:3).
2. We know that God cares (Matt 11:28; 1 Pet. 5:7).
3. When life's toils are over, the faithful will have rest (Rom. 2:6-7; Rev. 14:13).

C. True happiness is not found in worldly things. (Eccl. 2:11).

1. Happiness is not found in worldly possessions (Matt. 19:21-22).
2. Happiness is only found in God (Psalm 18:30; Psalm 28:7).

II. COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS. (DID YOU EVER TRY THAT?)

A. When things get rough, count your blessings (Name them one by one...).

B. A Christian is blessed far more than he can say (Eph. 1:3).

1. "... blessed us with ALL spiritual blessing."
2. Saints are blessed with comfort (2 Cor. 1:3-4).

C. Our blessings outweigh our troubles (Lam. 3:22-23).

III. SPEND TIME IN THE GOD'S WORD.

A. If we are to be happy, we must keep God's commandments (2 Peter 1:3; 3:9).

B. The Bible is a great encourager.

1. God's word reminds us of how blessed we are (Romans 5:8-11).
2. The Bible tells us where to find happiness.
 - 1) The Lord's correction can bring happiness.
 - a. Job 5:17 "Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth..."
 - b. Psalm 94:12 "Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD..."
 - c. Do we realize that we are corrected because we are loved?
 - 2) Our help and hope are found in the Lord (Psalms 146:5-7).

IV. MAKE CHRISTIANITY YOUR PRIORITY.

A. Pray often.

1. Let prayer be ever-present (Rom. 12:12; 1 Thess. 5:17).
2. Pray one for another (James 5:13-16).

B. Assemble with the Saints (Psalm 122:1; Heb. 10:25).

C. Study daily (Psalm 1:1-2; 119:111).

D. Help the work of the church (Matt. 6:33).

1. By giving time (Matt 8:19-22, Luke 14:18-20).
2. Be busy doing the Lord's work (Mark 16:15-16; Gal. 6:1-2).

V. CONCLUSION:

A. We can be happy. Christians have more reasons than any to be happy.

B. To be truly happy we must enjoy the thought of eternity.

1. How do you view your place in eternity?
2. 2 Peter 1:10 "... give diligence to make your calling and election sure."