

Title: Don't get Mad...Get Glad.

Text: "You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." (Hebrews 1:9)

Target: GET YOUR GLADNESS BACK!

I. What Christ Proves:

- A. Moved in Joy:** "he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit" (Luke 10:21)
 - 1. **Accused of being too Joyful:** "The Son of Man came eating and drinking," (Matthew 11:19)
 - 2. **Children longed to be around Him:** "He took them in his arms and blessed them," (Mark 10:13-16)
 - 3. **Considered Himself the Bridegroom:** "Can the wedding guest mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them?" (Matthew 9:15)
- B. He is Joy:** "These things I have spoken to you, that **my joy** may be in you, and that your joy may be full." (John 15:11)
- C. For the Joy:** "who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross," (Hebrews 12:2)
- D. Presents you with Joy:** "Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy." (Jude 1:24)
- E. Enter His Joy:** "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence is fullness of joy; as your right hand are pleasures forevermore." (Psalm 16:11)

II. What the Flesh Prevents: "Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit." (Psalm 51:12)

- A. Experiencing Blessing: (Driven by Performance)**
 - 1. **Driven by Ambition:** (James 3:16)
 - 2. **Driven by Affirmation:** (John 12:43)
 - 3. **Driven by Acceptance:** (Galatians 1:10)
- B. Encountering Freedom: (Chasing Feelings)**
 - 1. **Controlled by Cravings:** (James 1:14)
 - 2. **Consumed by Comparison:** (2 Cor. 10:2)
 - 3. **Conformed to Culture:** (Romans 12:2)

III. What the Spirit Produces: "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do." (Galatians 5:16-17)

- A. A Gladness that's Visible: (Fruit)** "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control..." (Galatians 5:22-23)
- B. A Gladness that's Distinguishable: (Favor)** "...with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people..." (Acts 2:46-47)
- C. A Gladness that's Undeniable: (Faithful)** "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds," (James 1:2-3)

D. A Gladness that's Unshakable: (Fervor) *"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."* (Romans 14:17)

IV. What We Must Pursue:

- A. Abide in our Savior:** *"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."* (John 15:4-5)
- B. Align with Scripture:** *"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love,"* (John 15:9-10)
 - 1. Walk by the Spirit:** *"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."* (Galatians 5:16)
 - 2. Live by the Spirit:** *"If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit."* (Galatians 5:25)
- C. Agree in the Spirit:** *"For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace."* (Romans 8:5-6)
 - 1. Not Grieving:** *"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."* (Ephesians 4:30)
 - 2. Not Quenching:** *"Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil."* (1 Thessalonians 5:19-22)

Takeaway: The World produces madness, the Flesh produces Badness, but the Spirit of God produces Gladness.