

“God’s Will for You - Part 2”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

March 7, 2010

1. Rejoice always (16).

Why rejoice?

- word used over 120xs commanded over 70xs in NT
- “not an order to be happy but an invitation to worship” Stott
- it expresses confidence in the goodness & providential work of God
- it wards off temptation

Characteristics of joy:

1) source

- relationship with God thru Christ is prerequisite
- depends upon the character of God - love, power, work
- supernatural - gift/fruit of the Holy Spirit
- based upon eternal things

2) perspective

- can be concurrent with suffering & hardships

negatively:

- can't be fabricated with campfires, repetitive choruses or mountain top experiences
- not an emotion or feeling due to circumstances but **a volitional choice**
there are many things to do but these things are always to do

2. Pray without ceasing (17).

3. In everything give thanks (18).

“God’s Will for You - Part 2”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

March 7, 2010

1. Rejoice always (16).

Why rejoice?

- word used over 120xs commanded over 70xs in NT
- “not an order to be happy but an invitation to worship” Stott
- it expresses confidence in the goodness & providential work of God
- it wards off temptation

Characteristics of joy:

1) source

- relationship with God thru Christ is prerequisite
- depends upon the character of God - love, power, work
- supernatural - gift/fruit of the Holy Spirit
- based upon eternal things

2) perspective

- can be concurrent with suffering & hardships

negatively:

- can't be fabricated with campfires, repetitive choruses or mountain top experiences
- not an emotion or feeling due to circumstances but **a volitional choice**
there are many things to do but these things are always to do

2. Pray without ceasing (17).

3. In everything give thanks (18).