

HOW TO MAINTAIN YOUR JOY

How to Enjoy the Rest of Your Life - Part 7

Philippians 3:1 "Finally my brothers, REJOICE in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same thing to you again, and it is a safeguard for you." Paul is concerned about the joy of the Philippians -- that they don't lose their joy.

THREE SAFEGUARDS FOR KEEPING YOUR JOY

1. RESIST _____

Legalism is substituting _____

_____.

Philippians 3:2-3 (GN) "Watch out for those who do evil, those dogs, men who insist on cutting the body. ... we worship God by his Spirit, and rejoice in our life in Christ Jesus. We do not put any trust in external ceremonies."

SAFEGUARD #1: _____

Philippians 3:4-6 "Though I myself have reason for such confidence. If anyone else thinks he has reason to put confidence in the flesh, I have more. Circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews. In regard to the law, a Pharisee. As for zeal, persecuting the church. As for legalistic righteousness, flawless."

Romans 14:17 "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit."

2. RE-EVALUATE _____

Philippians 3:7-8 "But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ..."

Philippians 3:8 (Ph) "I consider it all mere garbage compared to being able to win Christ..."

SAFEGUARD #2: _____

Luke 12:15 "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed. A man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

3. REFOCUS _____

Philippians 3:10 "I want to KNOW Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his suffering, becoming like him in his death."

Philippians 3:10 (Amp) "For my determined purpose is that I may KNOW Christ -- that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding Him more strongly and more clearly ..."

SAFEGUARD #3: _____

3 Ways To Grow In Knowing Christ

1) _____

2) _____

John 16:14 (Jesus) "Until now you have not asked for anything in My name. Ask and your joy will be complete."

3) _____