Subject: Re: Bulletin Board Posted by james on Sat, 13 Aug 2016 12:59:17 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Finding Joy...

I don't share this from a place of perfection but rather from a place of growing in my desire for God. Psalms 37:4 instructs believers to delight ourselves in The Lord...and He shall give us the desires of our hearts. For far too long my use of this scripture was to quote it as a proof text when praying for something I 'wanted or desired'. But I don't think God meant it for that self serving purpose. I believe that He is revealing to us here in this scripture(along with many others)how we come to find true joy in Him, by delighting in Him. So how does a person delight themselves in God? His Word shows us; meditating on His Word, quality time in prayer and fellowship with Him, seeking Him and the relationship Jesus died to restore to us after we had fallen short through our sins. Joy is a fruit of The Spirit that is given from God, we can't produce it of our own volition. Joy is a gift given by God to those who seek after Him with their whole hearts, whose delight is found in Him. It comes through meditation on who God is and what His attributes are, what He did through Jesus at Calvary. As we hunger and seek to behold the Glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ He reveals Himself in scripture. This causes our hearts and minds to rejoice and be glad in Him. Our rejoicing and gladness gives way to praise and adoration. It's here we begin to find joy, because God delights in the praise of His people and He loves to give good things to us... what better gift that 'The Joy of The LORD'.

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