



IN YOUR
PRESENCE THERE
IS FULLNESS OF
JOY

Psalm 16:11

May the Lord use these pages to strengthen your faith, sharpen your discernment, and draw you closer to Him.

In Your Presence There Is Fullness of Joy



Scripture

“You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”

Psalm 16:11

This is David writing. He is declaring that joy is with the Lord. He is proclaiming his joy in the midst of hard times.

Read more of the psalm, Psalm 16:7-11

“I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”

Cross reference Acts 2:25-28 in which Peter quotes this passage. “For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’”

Cross reference John 15:11, Jesus speaks “These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

Recommended further reading: read the entire Psalm. In verse 4, David declares “The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply....” The contrast is clear: chasing anything other than God multiplies sorrow, while walking with God leads to fullness of joy.

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What it Means

In verse 11, David is celebrating. As you read the entire psalm, you find that David got there intentionally. He rejected other gods. He chose God as his “portion and cup.” He made deliberate choices that set him on the “path of life.”

Joy is more than a feeling. You don’t just happen on it some days. David has the “fullness of joy” because he chose to follow God. And, the fullness of joy is more than happy moments. The fullness of joy is eternal. At God’s right hand are “pleasures forevermore.”

WORD STUDY

The Hebrew word for “path” is **orach** (o’-rakh). It means a well-traveled road and a godly way of living.

The Hebrew word for “fullness” in this passage is **soba** (so’-bah). It means filled to capacity or satisfied. Nothing is lacking.

The Hebrew word for “presence” is **paniym** (paw-neem’). This word is used over 2000 times and it generally means ‘face’ and ‘before.’ In this passage, it would mean that God is right before you...at your face.

The Hebrew word for “forevermore” is **netsach** (neh’tsakh) and it means constantly or continually. It is from a word that means something you travel toward...a goal.

Read the verse again. At your face...standing before you...is joy. When I choose the path of life...choose to follow God...I travel toward constant joy...pleasures forevermore.

As I read this, I am reminded of Matthew 7:14 — “For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.” Compare this to David’s path of life.

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Discern the Truth

David was a king. He had power and resources. He won battles, had relationships, and was revered. And, he understood that he needed God for his joy. He understood the path of life was with God.

Our world encourages us to seek happiness above all else. We’re told to find the right job, the right friends, the right clothes, the right city, the right amount of sleep, the right food. David isn’t telling us how happy he is. David is writing about pure joy that leaves him wanting nothing else.

We usually look to the New Testament and the words of Jesus when we need a reminder to follow God and live fully in Christ.

Here we are in the Old Testament with David proclaiming that God is the way and the path of life. This has been true since the beginning of time. God wanted us to follow Him then and He wants us to follow Him now. Peter reaches into this Psalm to tell the “Men of Israel” that Jesus is the Son of God — the promised one.

David knew. Peter knew.

We know. The only path worth walking is the path of life, following God. And it is this path that will bring you the “fullness of joy.”



The path of life...with God at your right hand...pure, everlasting joy.

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Observe & Apply

David describes a joy that fills him to capacity. In one verse, he gives an image of God standing in front of him, filling him with joy, and he successfully conveys the message that “pleasures forevermore” are only found on one path. What path are you on?

Read the expanded passage again. “...because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad...”

When God is with you, you can be confident in His presence. Notice the word ‘therefore.’ It is His presence that will make your heart glad. It is His presence that brings the fullness of joy.

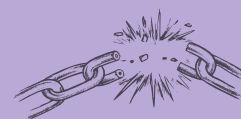
- When you let yourself pull away from Christ — maybe you’re busy and in a new routine or you’re just not sharing your life with Him — is it harder to work through difficulties? Is it harder to be happy?
- Now, think about a time when you were centered on God. A time when you were walking the path of life with God in front of you. How much more confident and strong were you? Is it harder to rattle you?

If you walk confidently with God, on a path that He has put in front of you, nothing can shake you for very long. And, if you can’t be shaken, you stop looking for things to make you happy. Instead you have the real joy that only God can bring.

The next time you need a reminder to follow God, think of David. Think of God’s presence and the path that David chose. Isn’t that the example that you want to show others? Think of the witness you can be when you walk confidently and live **Safe in Christ**.

ENSNARED NO MORE: DAILY MOMENTS OF DISCERNMENT

VOLUME 3 · MOMENT 4



EnsnaredLife.com

I launched EnsnaredLife.com with a desire to curate honest, truth-telling content alongside simple, purposeful things that strengthen a woman's walk with Christ or just add a little sunshine into the day. I am not a theologian or a professional blogger. I just wanted to learn something new while seeking wisdom and discernment every single day.

I value any time when I can sit alone, or in a small group, and study God's word, but I really wanted something that I could truly grab onto — something deeper than a quick devotional, more meaningful than what's usually on the shelf, yet still doable in the middle of real life. Most of all, I wanted it to be honest, without watering down or ignoring hard truths.

After much prayer about where to take this project, these **Daily Moments of Discernment** are the result. I pray that these short, standalone moments point you straight back to Scripture and help you live **Safe in Christ** — free from the snares that easily entangle us (Proverbs 29:25).

Thank you for supporting this project and thank God for the inspiration to create it.

Unless otherwise noted:

- All scripture citations are taken from the 2001 ESV translation.
- Word studies and cross-references are from the Crossway ESV Study Bible, the Expository Dictionary of Bible Words, or the e-Sword Bible app.
- Interpretations are my own, guided first by prayer and then by the many reference books and Bible translations on my shelf and, when helpful, an internet search to check a fact.

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