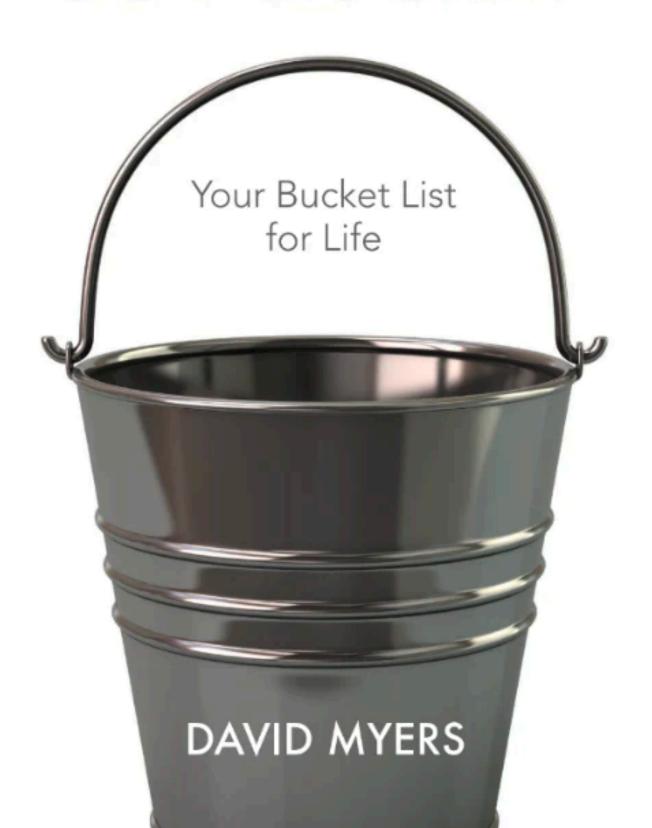
JOY BUCKET



THE JOY BUCKET

Session 1: The Gift of Joy

Key Scripture:

1 Peter 1:3-4

Opening Remarks:

We know that God is a Spirit. We know that the Holy Spirit is with us and that it is a river of living water, but what do we use to draw up that living water? How do we get the good stuff from the bottom of the well and into our innermost being? The answer is in the Word of God; we draw up that living water our soul needs with joy. Joy is the bucket to receive strength, our song, and salvation.

Watch Session 1 Video

Questions:

- 1. How would you define joy?
- 2. Share a time you have felt genuine joy. What caused your joy?
- 3. How full is your joy bucket today?

Closing Remarks:

Joy is not happiness. Joy remains even amid suffering. Joy is one of the fruits of resulting from the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Let's pray today that we will turn our eyes to Him and be renewed in that beautiful, lasting joy.

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THE JOY BUCKET

Session 2: Great Joy

Key Scriptures:

Acts 8:8

Opening Remarks:

The Bible indicates that the New Testament Church had "great joy." What made their joy great? They understood the great joy that comes from uniting together and giving, even in adversity.

Watch the Session 2 Video

Discussion Questions:

- Have you experienced more joy from giving or receiving? Why?
- 2. The video shared five keys to finding great joy based on Paul's shipwreck. Which of those keys have you found to be most true in your life?
- 3. Of those five keys to experiencing great joy, which do you most need to work on?

Closing Remarks:

We are trying to make Heaven our home, but we also need joy for the journey. Sometimes we must be reminded that God has given us a joy bucket that can be renewed and refilled. You can get through any storm and be of good cheer when you ask God to renew your joy.

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Session 3: Besetting Joy

Key Scriptures:

Hebrews 12:2

Opening Remarks:

We often think of the word besetting in terms of besetting sin, but the word simply means "continually." There is a joy that is set before us—a continual promise. That besetting joy comes when we endure our storms with determination, knowing we will triumph through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Watch the Session 3 Video

Discussion Questions:

- Elijah focused on a negative report and isolated himself, leading him to a fatalistic mindset. How can we avoid negativity and isolation in our lives?
- 2. Jesus endured the cross for the joy set before Him with determination and He triumphed. How could we apply His example to our lives?
- 3. We've seen in each of these sessions that joy is often connected to trials. What are some practical ways you can maintain joy during your trials?

Closing Remarks:

The Joy that God gives us that is persistent, that is wrapped in the package of a trial, is the reminder that Jesus became flesh, so that we could become free. He endured the cross for the joy set before Him to triumph openly over all opposition. We can triumph too because of His enduring work on the cross.

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THE JY BUCKET

Session 4: ReJoy

Key Scripture:

Philippians 4:4

Opening Remarks:

The prefix re, simply means "again." How do we have joy again and again? We must put into practice Scripture's instruction to rejoice. It is a call to have joy again and again. It is a verb, so it demonstrates action—the choice to get your joy back over and over.

Watch the Session 4 Video

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Because life can be difficult, there may be times we feel like we've lost our joy. Has that ever happened to you? What did you do?
- 2. What are some practical ways we can respond when the enemy tries to steal our iov?
- 3. What are some warning signals that might tell you that your joy bucket is low? How will you refill?

Closing Remarks:

The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation of Christianity. At the heart of the resurrection is the principle of "again." We not only serve the Creator, but we also serve the One who restores, renews, revives, and replenishes. First He gave us life, and now He gives us joy and life again and again.

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