

## Part 2 - Live Happier

Sermon Title: **Part 2 - Live Happier**

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C. Elijah Bronner: Live happier, live happier. No matter what happens in life, let nothing steal or rob your joy.

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(Music Playing: 00:00:18 - 00:00:30)

And now for Live Happier - Part 2.

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word because, brother, you need the word.

We welcome all of you joining us by television and those of you joining us online at brothersoftheword.com or Facebook or social media. Welcome to today's service. Always a wonderful delight and joy to have you to tune in and join us. I would like to share just a little humor. A father was waiting nearby while his young son prayed silently before going to bed. And suddenly, the boy burst out laughing. Reggie scolded by his father, "Why are you laughing during prayer?" "But, Dad," the boy answered, "You told me that prayer is talking to God as to a friend and I just told him a joke."

Well, we are doing Part 2 of Live Happier. Live happier and we're using as a central text John 15:11. John 15:11 says, "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." And so, it's God's will for us to be full of joy, to be happy, to enjoy life. Another translation says, "I have told you these things so that my joy and delight may be in you and that your joy may be full and complete and overflowing." And we shared another one, "I have told you this -- one translation says, "I have told you this to make you as completely happy as I am." And so, we see here that God desires for us to experience great joy. He wants us happy. Repeat with me again. I am super charged with joy.

Think about it all joy is ours. All joy is ours. All joy is ours. We have joy without measure that flows out of Christ and it flows into our lives as we are connected to Him. He fills us with his joy. He is our joy. He is our joy. He is our joy. Christ doesn't simply give us joy. He is our joy. He becomes our joy. He fills us with joy. He is our joy.

And remember Jesus said, “I told you these things so that my joy may be in you, that your joy will be complete and full and overflowing.” And we talked about what it is He told them so that they would have joy like that, He told them three things: He says, “You are mine and I am yours.” Number two, he says, “I’m madly in love with you.” And number three, He said, “You can ask me for anything. You can ask me for anything.” That’s the God we serve. He says, “I’m madly in love with you. You are mine. I’m yours and you can ask me for anything.” And that’s what he said. So, he said, “I said this to you, so my joy would be in you, that your joy will be full, complete and overflowing.”

We also found out in John Chapter 17, Jesus said the same thing and he said, “I’ve told you these things so your joy would be full.” And He said he’s praying for us. We have special relationship with Him and that He keeps us. Praise God.

You know Romans Chapter 14 Verse 17 says, “For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.” So, joy is a huge part of God’s kingdom. Righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost, that’s the kingdom of God. One translation says, “Righteousness, peace and Joy.” It doesn’t say “joy in the Holy Ghost”. It says, “Joy that the Holy Spirit provides,” or, “Joy that the Holy Spirit produces.”

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So, the Holy Spirit produces joy in our lives. He provides joy in our lives. He gives joy in our lives. Joy is the fruit of the spirit and so, it is the manifestation of the Holy Spirit that joy is poured out into our hearts.

Proverbs Chapter 15 Verse 13 says that a cheerful heart brings a smile to your face. A sad heart makes it hard to get through the day. And so, we find out that life is just too short to be unhappy. It’s too short to be unhappy. Happiness, you have to realize that happiness is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Choose to be happy. Say, “I choose happiness.” I choose happiness. It’s a choice. It’s a choice. So, each day, we have a choice and we can choose to be happy. Choose to be happy. Happiness is a choice.

Now, we said that there are three reasons that God wants us full of joy. Number one, joy makes everything better. Joy helps us to enjoy life. It makes everything better in life. We are more generous. We are more loving, we're friendlier, we're more energized, we're more alive, we're more attractive. So, joy just makes everything better. Everything is better with joy. And number two, we said that joy blesses others. It blesses your family, your friends, and even your adversaries.

A lot of people have asked me for marriage advice. I had a young man, he had been married for a few years and he wanted my marital advice since I've been married for so long. And he said, "What could you give me as a young husband? What advice could you give me?" I told him, "My number one advise," I said, "Be happy." I said, "Be happy." I said, "Be helpful. Be fun, be caring, be kind, be useful." We'll be fine be caring be kind be useful." But my first thing was, "Be happy. Be happy." I said, "Everybody likes to be married to somebody who's happy." I said, "So, if you want a happy marriage, you yourself, be happy." I didn't say, "Wait for your wife to make you happy." I said, "No, be happy. Be happy, be helpful, be useful, be kind, be caring, be fun." That's the secret to a happy marriage. You have to first be happy yourself. Be happy, helpful, useful, kind, caring and fun. So, that's the second reason that the Lord wants us full of joy.

Number one, it makes life better. It makes life better. But I said, "Better." It makes life better. Number two, it blesses other people. It blesses other people. So, our families and friends, and even our adversaries are blessed when we have joy and when we're happy.

And number three, the third reason that God wants us full of joy is because it is our strength. It is our strength. You need joy and happiness to make it through life. Life can get ugly. Life can get tough. I mean, life is full of adversity, full of trouble and all of that and, man, your joy is your strength. It's joy that gives you resilience. It's joy that gives you bounce-back power. It's joy that allows you to keep going and to make it through life. It's your joy that keeps the strongest. It's joy that keeps you going. And so, those are the three reasons. Joy is our victory. It's our victory in life, man. And so, counting all joy. Counting all joy.

James reminds us counting all joy, when you fall into driver's test trials in temptation.

I read an interesting point. I've shared it before, but I love sharing it. But it talks about -- and this is actually -- this is actually several accounts of this. One account said that a monk wrote it, but another account said that an 85-year-old lady wrote it, so you all can choose, it doesn't matter. All I can say is somebody wrote it. And they said this, they said, "If I had to live my life over, I dare to make more mistakes next time. I'd relax. I would limber up. I would be sillier than I have been this trip. I would take fewer things seriously. I would take more chances. I would climb more mountains and swim more rivers. I would eat more ice cream and less beans and perhaps I would have more actual troubles and fewer imaginary ones. If I had my life to live over again, I would start barefoot earlier in the spring and stay that way until later in the fall. I would go to more dances. I would ride more merry-go-rounds. I would pick more daisies."

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"If I had my life to live over again", in other words, they would choose to be happy. They would choose to live a happy life. They would choose happiness in life. Choose happiness in life. Life is so much fun. When you enjoy life with the joy of the Lord, when you have God's joy and you have the perspective of joy in life, life is so much fun. Life is so much fun. Life is so much fun. And so, we enjoy life.

Someone said, and I think it was Charlie Chaplin, he said that a day without laughter is a day wasted. And so in other words, he said, "Don't let a day go by without having some fun, without having a laugh." Life is too short to be unhappy. So, if you want to enjoy life, you want to be happy, and it's a choice. Choose every day, I choose happiness. I choose to be happy. Say it with me again. I choose to be happy. I choose to be happy. I choose to be happy. I don't care what else is going on around, I choose to be happy. And we, of all people, can make that claim because the Bible says in Psalms 144, "Happy are the people whose God is the Lord. Happy are the people whose God is the Lord." And so, we can make that claim more than anyone else.

Now, Philippians, I'm going to give you this little secret, I don't give this to every audience, only to you. Philippians is -- if you ever want to take a quick shot of joy, you know how they have the little energy shots that you can get in convenience stores, little five-hour energy -- these little energy bottles 2 ounce bottles. Energy shots that just give you a burst of energy. And I know some people go to coffee shops and they get the little espresso shots or whatever it is that just gives you a burst of -- if you ever need a quick shot of joy, read the book of Philippians. It's only four chapters, but it's like an espresso shot of joy in Philippians. So, the whole book of Philippians is the New Testament book of joy the New Testament book of joy. So, if you ever getting a little depressed and you feel yourself being a little discouraged, a little down, you feel your joy waning a little bit, simply just take about 15 minutes, read through the book of Philippians. It's only four quick chapters and, man, that's like a quick espresso shot of joy. I just had a shot. That's a little secret. I share that with all my audiences. I'm only sharing that with you. I'm only sharing that with you. But Philippians is you want to quick shot of joy. Just read the book of Philippians. Four quick chapters, but it will fill you with joy.

But Paul says in Philippians 4, "Rejoice in the Lord." And then he repeated himself. He said, "Rejoice in the Lord always." And again, "I say, rejoice." He repeated himself. He's like, "Didn't you hear me? I said, rejoice. Again, rejoice." So, it's a happy book. So, Philippians is a happy book. He was so happy. Why he didn't he say it that we could rejoice our ways? Because His grace is always sufficient. His love is always constant. His blood always has cleansing power because he's always good. His word is always true. He always forgives your sin. That's why we can rejoice always.

First Thessalonians 5:16 says the same thing, "Rejoice evermore. Always be rejoicing, always be happy in your faith," is what it says in 1 Thessalonians 5:16. "Be happy always, rejoice evermore." Saying the same thing, "Rejoice evermore." keep that joy because that's your strength. It carries you through life. It's the thing that makes life better and it's a witness to others, it makes others happy around you. Spread a little joy in the world, make it a point, make it a goal to make somebody a little happier that you encounter throughout the day and in the words of Mother Teresa, "Let no one leave you without being better and happier. Let no one you encounter

throughout the day leave you without being better and happier.” Spread a little Joy. That’s why we’re here.

We’re in a sad world. We’re in a dark troubled world. People are unhappy and God’s people who witness it is that we can be full of joy and spread a little joy and brighten someone’s day and shed a little cheer. That’s why God wants us full of joy, but we first have to be filled up with that joy and simply receiving it from Christ. He’s our joy, get in His presence, read Philippians and just let that joy refill. You take espresso shout of Joy every day.

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I think that doesn’t change what I thought what’s espresso shot. I’ll tell you, it works, it works. It works, it works, it works. Praise God. Joy is supernatural delight. Joy is supernatural delight in the person of God. Joy is supernatural delight in the presence of God. Joy is supernatural delight in the promises of God. Joy is supernatural delight in the provision of God. Joy is supernatural delight in the purposes of God. And so, our joy is rooted out of our relationship with Him. This comes out of our connection with Him. And so, that’s what Jesus was really teaching. He said, “I’ve told you these things, so that your joy will be full, overflowing, complete and overflowing.” In other words, just stay with me, stay with me, stay in and stay connected to me. My joy will spill over into your life and you’ll always be full of joy.

This joy would be your victory. This joy would make life better. This joy would be a witness. This joy will cause it to overflow and spill over to others. And so, that’s what our Jesus was really, really saying. Man, so live happier, live happier, not just for ourselves, but we’re living happier so we can spread a little joy around the world.

I was in a forum today and everybody in the forum was mad, they were cursing, they were mad, because something had gone wrong with the administration of the particular company, so something had gone wrong. So, everybody listening, they’re complaining and fussing and cursing and so forth. And so, I said, “You know what, this is a great opportunity for me to put a comment in.” I’ve been into the forum and put a comment and I said, “Thank you all so much.” I said, “Thank you all so much.”

So, I said, "Thank you for providing us with such an exciting wonderful time." I said, "You give us something to look forward to every week." I said, "Sure, there might even a few hiccups, but I said, man, that's what makes life worth living. And I want to thank you all. I want to thank you all." And so, I just went into the forum and added a little joy, just to spread a little joy, just to spread a little joy. And I posted it all over the forum. I put it on four different places because I wanted everybody to see it in the midst of complaining and the midst of grieving. I wanted them to see that there is joy, and joy makes life better. Joy makes life better. There's no need of complaining. No need of complaining. No happy are the people whose God is the Lord. We're happy -- anybody happy that Jesus has come. We're happy. Happy are the people whose God is the Lord. Joy -- live happier. Live happier. Live happier. Praise God, praise God. I preach myself happy. Glory, glory, glory.

Proverbs 17:22 says, "A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing. A happy heart is good medicine. A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing. Cheerful mind works healing, but a broken spirit dries the bones." And so, joy, happiness is a good medicine. It works healing. It works healing. That was a man, he was terminally ill. The doctor had just given him about six months to live and he told his sons, he said, "Go out and buy me all the Three Stooges videos you all can find." And they did that and brought them to him. And he watched those videos and laughed all day, 24 hours a day. He was just watching videos and left. Long story short, he was healed of his disease. He understood that a cheerful heart is good medicine. It does something in the body. It does something in the mind. It's healing. It's healing.

So, being happy is wonderful. It's the only way to live. It's the best way to live and we choose happiness. Say it with me again. I choose to be happy. I choose to be happy. I choose to be happy. And I'm not going to put it off any longer. I'm not going to wait until the kids are grown and off. I'm not going to wait until I have this much money. I'm not going to wait until all my problems are gone. No, I want to choose to be happier right now, right now. I chose to be happy right now. I want to enjoy every minute. I want to enjoy every second of life. I don't want to waste any of it. Life is a gift. It's precious. Every moment is precious. I want to enjoy every moment. I want to say life is a

gift. Life is a gift. Enjoy it to its fullest. Live it to its fullest. Life is a gift.

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There was another man. He was given six months to live. They had basically given him his death sentence. They gave him six months to live. And after about three months, the doctors called him back in and they said, "We made a misdiagnosis. You're not going to die at all. Forget what we told you previously. You have your life back." That man said that when he got his life back, he said nothing bothered him anymore. He said traffic didn't bother him. He smiled as he waited in traffic. He said when people cursed him out, it didn't bother him. He smiled as people curse him out. Why? Because he had a greater appreciation of life. He realized that life is a gift. Life is precious. Cherish every moment. Life is too short to live unhappy. Live happier. Live happier. Live happier. No matter what happens in life, let nothing steal or rob your joy. Praise God. I'm happy. Anybody happy? Glory, glory, glory. Live happier. Live happier. Live happier.

Praise God. I'm going to stop right here. We're going to do one more session because there are some things I want to share. I'd share them in the next session. I want to happiness tips from around the world. I want to share happiness tips from around the world. And also, I want to read a happiness book to you. I've done this before, but I have a second edition book. Somebody sent me the second edition to the happiness books. I'm going to read the whole book. So, if you're next time, you get to hear the whole book read. So, if anybody asked you how many books you read for the year, you can say, "I have read a book." So, I'm going to read the whole book. I'm going to read the whole book next session and I want to share some happiness tips from around the world. Praise God. Amen, amen, amen.

Well, you all can stand to your feet. Thank you all for coming out and we love you and appreciate you so much. Oh, God, so good to us. That's what makes me happy because he's so good to us. It's what makes me happy. Praise God, praise God. We just love Him and adore Him. He makes us happy. He is our joy, He's our exceeding joy. He's our exceeding Joy. When Paul described the joy that the early believers had, he said, "You all have enjoyed this unspeakable full of glory." I couldn't even put

it into words the joy that they had. They were so happy to receive the gift of Christ and know that he was living on the inside of them. So, joy, unspeakable, and full of glory. We have that joy. We have that same joy. We have that same joy. Praise God.

Oh, man, this joy is so good, it will make you laugh at the devil. When the devil's throwing his best shot at you, you can just laugh. You laugh, you laugh, you laugh because he can't steal your joy. He can't touch the joy. The world can give you this joy and the world can't take it away. I told you these things, that my joy might remain in you and your joy might be full, complete, and overflowing. Praise God, praise God, praise God.

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