

**CHRIST'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**  
The Promise Fulfilled: Christ: Our Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love  
**Good News of Great Joy**



**Magnify Christ — and Joy Will Rise**

**Psalm 40:16 AMP** "Let all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; Let those who love Your salvation say continually, "The LORD be magnified!"

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**Christ's Presence Transforms Deserts into Gardens of Joy**

**Isaiah 35:1-2,10 AMP** "The wilderness and the dry land will be glad; The Arabah (desert) will shout in exultation and blossom Like the autumn crocus. [2] It will blossom abundantly And rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, The majesty of [Mount] Carmel and [the plain] of Sharon. They will see the glory of the LORD, The majesty and splendor of our God. [10] And the ransomed of the LORD will return And come to Zion with shouts of jubilation, And everlasting joy will be upon their heads; They will find joy and gladness, And sorrow and sighing will flee away."

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**When Christ is Savior, the Soul Sings with Joy**

**Luke 1:46-47 AMP** And Mary said, "My soul magnifies and exalts the Lord, [47] And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior."

**Psalm 98:4-6 AMP** "Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth; Shout [in jubilation] and sing for joy and sing praises. [5] Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, With the lyre and the sound of melody. [6] With trumpets and the sound of the horn Shout with joy before the King, the LORD."

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**Knowing Christ is Near Sustains Joy**

**Philippians 4:4-5 AMP** Rejoice in the Lord always [delight, take pleasure in Him]; again I will say, rejoice! [5] Let your gentle spirit [your graciousness, unselfishness, mercy, tolerance, and patience] be known to all people. The Lord is near.

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**Discussion Questions**

1. How does magnifying the Lord lead to a deeper experience of joy?
2. Why does David connect true joy with loving God's salvation instead of depending on life's circumstances?
3. Why does God choose the desert—a barren, lifeless place—to illustrate joy?
4. What areas of your life feel empty or barren right now—whether in your emotions, your faith, or your relationships? Why is it barren?
5. What does it mean to find joy deep within your soul instead of depending on outside circumstances?
6. How comfortable are you with expressing joy openly in worship and what might need to change in your heart so joy can overflow into praise?
7. How does knowing that the Lord is near give us strength to rejoice even in hard times, and what situation in your life right now needs this reminder?