

Daily Devotional, November 4, 2021 Filling My Heart with Peace and Joy

“A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.” Luke 6:45 (NIV)

How does the world leave us feeling each day? When we hear so many hopeless messages about our world's future, and when we hear leaders of our country treat one another terribly, how do we deal with this? It is easy to become bitter, and to stop trusting one another. We tend to draw our own conclusions as to who is right and who is wrong and then take up sides. But, as Christians, we must instead learn to extend a helping hand. We must smile so large that others can see it behind our mask!

And where would this smile come from? In Luke chapter 6:12 it is revealed that, “during those days He went out to the mountain to pray; and He spent the night in prayer to God.” It was after this time alone that Jesus begins to teach the people, including the wisdom in the verse at the beginning of this devotional. During difficult times, before He would teach and after He would teach, Jesus would spend time with God.

It is the intentional practice of spending time with God that filled Jesus' heart with peace and joy, and it should fill our hearts with joy, as well. God is the source of our joy and peace. We must remember to spend time with God in prayer and then take it into our hearts. When we keep our hearts full of the goodness of God, we can spread God's goodness to others in everything we do. Morning, noon, and night are all good times to pray and recharge our joy batteries. Rest assured that the source of our joy never runs out.

Prayer: Faithful God, please help me to find rest and happiness within your plan. Make my lips smile longer as I think of moving to an amazing place close to where You reside. Let me awaken each morning with hope for everything that the world has to offer. Help me focus so that I can discover peace, prosperity, and happiness in my life through Your many blessings. Show me how to make these the most important parts of my day. Following Jesus' example. Amen.