

To Live is Christ

21 For to me, to live is Christ.

Philippians 1:21 NKJV

FCI Faith Group Program

July 30, 2023

BOOK OF PETER (PART 5) – STAY JOYFUL! REJOICE!

- Many times, we have heard from Jesus to be cheerful because He have overcome the world. And we usually say because we have Christ, we will also overcome. But there are scriptures that really tells us we, believers, overcome the world – **1 John 5:4-5**.
- Are you born of God? Are you born again? Then you overcome the world.
- We overcome trials which are not from God. This is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith which we received as a gift when we got born again.
- *Gamitin mo ang pananampalataya mo.*
- *Pag ginamit mo ang faith mo, ma-o-overcome mo kahit anong pagsubok o problema sa buhay.*
- He who believes Jesus, he overcomes. This is why we can be of good cheer!
- Faith is believing in the Word who is Jesus.
- Even though the enemy is testing, trying our faith with trials but what the devil intends for evil serves us well. God turns it around so that we see how our faith works to overcome the world. Faith works all the time if you use it.
- Walking by faith is a joyful life, a peaceful life *kahit may problema*.
- Overthinking is also worrying. Faith thinking is God's way.
- Think about the Word and the Lord's promises, and it will bring you joy and peace.
- **Isaiah 26:3** – You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.
- *Mag-park or mag-camp ka sa Word. Stay in the Word.*
- Keep your mind in the Lord and you will have perfect peace.
- Rest your mind in the Lord. *Papayapa ang iyong kalooban at ikaw ay magagalak.*
- Trust in the Lord then you can be of good cheer!
- The disciples saw Jesus always cheerful in His life. That's why they taught the same thing: From James, count it all joy even in trials. From Paul, rejoice again I say to you rejoice. From Peter, joy in the middle of grievous trials.
- Why is it important to stay joyful? **1 Peter 1:6-9** – Though we have not seen the Lord yet, we love Him, we believe in Him, we rejoice with joy inexpressible, and the effect is the salvation of our souls.
- We need to stay joyful for the salvation of our souls – our mind, will, emotions.
- But sometimes when people go through trials, they think nothing good is going to come out of it. What good will it produce? *Wala akong makita*. I cannot see what good this trial will bring. Well, the Bible says: **Romans 8:28** – “and we KNOW all things work together for good to those who love Him.”
- It doesn't say “and we SEE all things work together.” It says we KNOW. Iba ang KNOW sa SEE.
- We may not see it with our eyes immediately. Maybe not in our lifetime. But we KNOW. Because Jesus is faithful and in truth, He has done it all. *Tapos na ang Kaniyang gawa* whether you see it or not.
- Declare: “I know all things work together for good to me who love God.” Something good is going to come out of this trial.
- We know by faith for we walk by faith and not by sight.
- Sometimes we don't get what we want but keep trusting the Lord, He has great plans for us.
- Now, what could be worse than not getting your dreams fulfilled? Sa isip ng maraming tao, it is death. Death is the worst thing that comes to mind for people. *Maraming takot sa kamatayan*.

- But even death, because of the Lord Jesus and His finished work on the cross, has now become gain! If you understand the Word of God and get a revelation.
- To live is Christ, to die is gain. Death for a believer is not loss but gain.
- Faith goals: 1. No consciousness of sin; 2. No fear of death.
- As we mature, we should not fear death anymore.
- We do not SEE yet that to die is gain. We haven't died and lived to tell. But we KNOW by faith that to die is gain.
- All gain for those who died in Christ. No sickness, no debts, no hard work. It is time to enjoy your heavenly inheritance reserved for you. Enjoy the continuous peace and joy in the presence of our Father and Jesus Christ.
- And while we are here on earth, occupy till Jesus come. Our stand is that we live for Christ but when death comes, *yung kinakatakutan ng tao, sa atin hindi na natin kinakatakutan yan.*
- No fear of death for us, believers of Jesus Christ.
- We have overcome even death by faith in Jesus who overcame death for us.
- *Kahit sa sukduhan na trial, kaya mong magalak at kumalma at sabihin na "all is well"* if you are a believer of Jesus Christ.
- To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. *Pero wag magmadali*, life is a gift.
- See your future: God has great plans for us for eternity: Heaven, the Father's house which has many mansions. Heavenly inheritance to enjoy. Loved ones, departed ones that we will see again because of Christ. Millennial reign – 1,000 years reign. Being Judges like Christ in the Great White Throne Judgment. The New Jerusalem. To infinity and beyond.
- God is a joyful God because He knows His wonderful plans for us and He rejoices over us.
- Prophecy (foreknowledge): **Zephaniah 3:17** – He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.
- God is a rejoicer. God is always glad. Always joyful!
- Gladness is the Greek word *agaliasis* which means extreme joy, exultation, gladness, exceeding joy.
- **Jude 1:24** – *Kagalakan ni Lord to keep you faultless, blameless.*
- God is exceedingly joyful! So rejoice always!
- We should also always rejoice. This is a characteristic of believers of the early church. (**Acts 2:46**) This is the same word *agaliasis* which is exceeding joy!
- Rejoice! Rejoice even in trials. *Dahil sagot ka ng Diyos!*
- Rejoicing and being glad is an anointing in our lives. This anointing is in Christ. And we are in Christ and Christ is in us.
- Jesus is always a rejoicing Jesus. He was a man of sorrows only on the cross because He took the curse for us.
- Jesus is our joyful Creator – **Proverbs 8:29-31**.
- Joy here is a twirling kind of joy. We are His delight.
- Jesus is our joyful Savior. He was glad He came to save us. For the joy that was set before Him, He endured the cross, despising its shame.
- His joy was to give His life for us.
- Jesus is our happy Redeemer. *Di Sya nakasimangot at malungkot at mukhang "holy"* as people think. He is full of gladness more than any person!
- **Hebrews 1:9** – anointed with oil of gladness. Rejoicing and being glad is an anointing in our lives. This anointing is in Christ. And we are in Christ and Christ is in us so we can enjoy this same anointing.
- Even in the midst of trials and tribulations, recognize this anointing of gladness in you.
- The joy of the Lord is our strength!
- This joy allows us to say no to worries, doubt, fear. *Kaya lagi tayong masaya kasi kalakasan sa atin ang joy ng Panginoon.*
- Speak the Word. *May problema?* I have the wisdom of the Lord. *May kakulangan?* The Lord will supply. *May sakit at karamdaman?* *May kagalingan kay Kristo. Magaling na ako.*

- We speak the words of Jesus Christ. We live by the Word.
- Smile! *Mana tayo kay Lord Jesus. Kaya* stay glad! Rejoice!
- Rejoicing is a proof that you believe in Jesus whom we have never seen.
- Rejoicing is a proof of believing = Salvation of your soul.
- *Ang kasiyahan mo ay ang ating Panginoon.*
- Joy inexpressible and full of glory – *yan ang para sa atin na naniniwala kay Kristo Hesus maski di mo pa Siya nakikita.*
- As He said to Thomas in **John 20:29** – “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”
- Blessed are we for we love Him and believe Him yet we have not seen Him. We are blessed than those who have seen Jesus because we believe! That is why rejoice!

*Though we have not seen the Lord yet,
we love Him, we believe in Him,
we rejoice with joy inexpressible,
and the effect is the salvation of our souls.
So be of good cheer!*

*You who believe in Jesus Christ, you overcome the world!
You know that all things work together for good
to you who love God.*

*Recognize that you have the oil of gladness,
the anointing of exceeding joy in your life.*

*You can stay joyful even in trials!
For the joy of the Lord is your strength!
Rejoice!*