

Joyful In Obedience

Psalm 37:4

Engage

Pray

Joyful in Obedience

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- What is Joyful Obedience?
- What Does God Call Us To As Christians?
- How & Why Do We Pray?

Joyful In Obedience

**Take delight in the Lord,
and he will give you your heart's desires.**

Psalms 37:4

Somebody asked me one time: Should you pursue joy or should you pursue obedience? And I said, “That is like saying, ‘should you pursue apples or should you pursue fruit,’ because if you obey the command - Delight yourself in the Lord - you are pursuing joy, and so obedience and joy can’t be contrasted like that.”

John Piper

What God Calls Us To As Christians

God's Word

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.

2 Peter 3:18

Work

The Lord God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it.

Genesis 2:15

Family

But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

1 Timothy 5:8

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:4

I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.

2 Timothy 1:5

Church

And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

**Carry one another's burdens; in this way
you will fulfill the law of Christ.**

Galatians 6:2

But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Hebrews 3:13

Evangelism & Discipleship

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

Relationships

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. 25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. 28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, 30 because we are members of his body. 31 “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

Ephesians 6:22-33

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Romans 15:5-7

Widows and Orphans

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

James 1:27

Intentional Living

Prayer

How Should We Pray?

How Should We Pray?

- **Praise** (Psalm 150:1-6)
- **Confession** (Proverbs 28:13)
- **God's Will** (Matthew 6:10)
- **Spiritual Growth** (Ephesians 1:15-23)
- **Physical Needs** (Jeremiah 30:17)
- **Mental/Emotional Needs**(1 Peter 5:7)
- **Prayer Against Temptation** (Hebrews 2:18)
- **Lament** (Lamentations 1)
- **Prayer for Understanding** (2 Timothy 2:7)
- **Prayer for Wisdom** (James 1:5)
- **Thankfulness to God** (Psalm 7:17)
- **Thankfulness for Spiritual Blessing** (Psalms 103:1-4)
- **Thankfulness for other Christians** (Philemon 1)
- **Prayer to be Sanctified** (Galatians 5:16-25)
- **Prayer to know God More** (Philippians 3:10)
- **Pray the Promises of God** (Isaiah 41:10)

Why Should We Pray?

For God's Glory

A Theology of Prayer

1. God created the universe and all that is in it to display the riches of the glory of his grace.

**2. Therefore all persons should
act in a way that calls attention
to the glory of God's grace.**

3. The obedience and service of God's people will glorify him most when they consciously and manifestly depend on him for the grace and power to do what they do.

4. Prayer for God's help is one way that God preserves and manifests the dependence of his people on his grace and power. The necessity of prayer is a constant reminder and display of our dependence on God for everything, so that he gets the glory when we get the help.

5. When the Spirit inspires and directs the groanings in our hearts, the ultimate purpose of the universe happens: God gets the glory because God the Spirit creates the groanings in us; God gets the glory because God the Father is the one who hears and performs what the Spirit asks; God gets glory because God the Son purchased for sinners every blessing they ever receive; and God gets glory because our hearts are made the theater for this divine activity, so that we know and experience God's gracious intercession for us and consciously give him thanks and praise.

For Our Good

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