

Word on Wednesday Bible Study
Pastor Kenneth Reece
The Source of Joy – Psalm 16:11
July 8, 2026

KEY VERSE: "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore." — **Psalm 16:11 (ESV)**

INTRODUCTION

Before we can maintain joy, we must understand where joy comes from. Many people confuse joy with happiness — but these are not the same.

Happiness is built on what _____. It rises and falls with circumstances. But joy is deeper — it is a settled _____ that has its roots somewhere the storms of life cannot reach.

David wrote Psalm 16 as a Miktam — a poem meant to be engraved and kept. He had every reason to be undone. In his life, he had enemies, caves, and desperate seasons. Yet from those desperate places, he declares that joy is not rooted in circumstances, but in the One who is with us in our circumstances.

I. JOY HAS A PATH

"You make known to me the path of life" (v. 11a)

Before David mentions joy, he mentions the path. That order matters. True joy is not stumbled upon — joy is _____ into!

The Hebrew word for "make known" is **yada** — which means intimate knowledge, relational knowledge. God does not hand us a map and walk away. He takes us by hand.

The path of life is not the absence of trouble. It is the _____ of God in the midst of trouble.

Consider how Jesus identifies Himself in John 14:6: "I am the _____, the truth, and the life."

Look at the words David uses throughout Psalm 16: "refuge" (v.1), "sorrows multiply" (v.4), "corruption" (v.10). These are not the words of a comfortable man. They are the words of a man _____ on.

II. JOY HAS A PRESENCE

"In your presence there is fullness of joy" (v. 11b)

David does not say in God's blessings, promotions, provision, or protection is fullness of joy. He says in God's _____ there is fullness of joy.

The Hebrew word for "fullness" is **soba** — satisfaction to the point of being completely filled. This is not a sip of joy. This is not a teaspoon of joy. This is _____ satisfaction.

The world keeps selling us things that promise fullness but deliver a _____. The world entertains the flesh but cannot satisfy the _____.

David declares in verse 8: "I have set the LORD always before me. Because He is at my right hand, I shall not be _____."

"And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." — Matthew 28:20

Two believers can sit in the same hospital waiting room, face the same news, and one falls apart while the other has a peace that makes no sense. The difference is not the _____. The difference is the _____.

III. JOY HAS A PERMANENCE

"At your right hand are pleasures forevermore" (v. 11c)

The right hand in Scripture is the place of power and _____. The Hebrew word for "forevermore" is **netsach** — perpetuity; that which endures to the very end and beyond it.

Everything the world offers comes with a _____ date. The applause fades. The trophy tarnishes. The crowd goes home. But the pleasures at God's right hand are _____.



"For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." — Hebrews 12:2

The very joy David pointed to has a name: _____. His joy is:

- "Inexpressible and filled with glory" — 1 Peter 1:8
- "No one will take your joy from you" — John 16:22
- "Weeping may endure for the night, but joy comes with the morning" — Psalm 30:5

Where Is Your Joy Banked?

Joy banked in circumstances will be _____ the moment circumstances change. Joy banked in people's approval will be _____ the moment they change their opinion. But joy banked at the right hand of God cannot be bankrupted by cancer, grief, critics, or even _____ itself.

This week, I commit to:

One person I will share the Source of Joy with this week:

Memory Verse to Memorize: Psalm 16:11

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Saint Paul Church of Sacramento | Maintaining Your Joy Series