****I choose Joy

*You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalms 16:11*

*He will yet fill your mouth with laughing, And your lips with rejoicing. Job 8:21*

**1) You can choose joy in 2023**

Philippians 4:4-7 – Your prayers are wedged between joy and peace; and they are mixed with gratitude. That’s not thanking God for the problem but having faith that He will lead you to the solution.

**2) When the Gospel is believed, great joy follows**

Acts 8:4-8, Isaiah 61:1-3

*Whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing,* ***you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,*** *receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls. I Peter 1:8-9*

**3) Possessing great joy is the will of God for every Christian**

*These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. John 15:11*

*And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. John 16:23-24*

**4) Hope and faith are the key to accessing this joy**

*Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13*

*I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord! Psalms 27:13-14*

**5) You can access supernatural joy despite circumstances**

Habakkuk 3:17-19

* Joy/Heb. Gil, Strong’s #1523: To joy, rejoice, be glad, be joyful. *Gill* contains the suggestion of “dancing for joy,” or “leaping for joy,” since the verb meant to “spin around with intense motion.” This lays to rest the notion that the biblical concept of joy is only “a quiet sense of well-being.” Although everything is wrong in Habakkuk’s external world, he is leaping for joy over his fellowship with Yahweh (Word Wealth, The Spirit Filled Life Bible, NKJV, Thomas Nelson publishers)

**6) Laughter is good medicine**

* *Prov.17:22 NKJV- A merry heart does good, like medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones.*
* *Prov.17:22 NLT- A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.*
* Laughing at tragedy/Christian comedian Chonda Pierce/endured abuse and the death of two sisters and became a popular comedian/ named top certified female comedian by the Recording industry Association of America for having sold more comedy DVDs than any other comedian-secular or Christian. “I fell in love with the sound of people laughing. It’s almost cliché now that we say laughter does good like a medicine, but for me it became medicine.” (Charisma Magazine, Healing Brokenness with Laughter)

*Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us. Ephesians 3:20 NKJV*

*Never doubt God’s mighty power to work in you and accomplish all this. He will achieve infinitely more than your greatest request, your most unbelievable dream, and exceed your wildest imagination! He will outdo them all, for his miraculous power constantly energizes you. Ephesians 3:20 TPT*

