

**June 19, 2022**

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

**Rom. 15:13** *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (NIV)*

I love this quote from A.W. Tozer: *“What I am anxious to see in Christian believers is a beautiful paradox. I want to see in them the joy of finding God while at the same time they are blessedly pursuing Him. I want to see in them the great joy of having God yet always wanting Him.”* And C.S. Lewis puts it this way: *“The very nature of joy makes nonsense of our common distinction between having and wanting.”*

One of the most important parts of living the real and abundant life of Christ, is realizing that the LORD does not want us to keep it to ourselves. He wants us to overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. He wants us to enjoy His Spirit and then share His Spirit. Earlier, Paul had made this statement in **Rm. 14:17** *For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (NIV)*

This joy should be overflowing so that it affects those around us. People will always be drawn to the joy of the LORD in us. They will want to know what makes us like that. The joy of the LORD is given and never earned. It is beautiful and fulfilling. It is attainable only because He has given it, and not because we have earned it. If we could, then He died in vain. But instead, He has purchased us by His blood and has given us a new spirit that is alive and full of His joy. **Ps. 107:2** *Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy. (NKJV)*

**Dear LORD, Your blessings upon us are not for our own pleasure alone, but to be shared with others. Help us to put to death the selfish desires of our hearts so that we can look to the fields that are white unto harvest. In Jesus Name, Amen**