

Sunday AM Service ~ July 23, 2023

Service for Swansea & Charlestown Presbyterian Church

Welcome & Prayer

As we begin our service of worship this morning let's remind ourselves of the great God we are coming before. So I am going to start off with a reading from Psalm 46. *"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."* (NIV)

Prayer God our Refuge, when human resources fail, you alone remain our sure hope and defence. In the knowledge of your love, grant us courage. We place ourselves in your hands, confident that nothing can separate us from your love. We praise you for Jesus, the Living One, the First and the Last, who was dead, but now is forever alive. Help us, who have not seen, to believe; send us, as you have sent Jesus, to greet the world with the Easter word of peace and to share with all the Spirit's new life of forgiveness. We ask through the Lord Jesus, our Passover and our Peace, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Song – How great is our God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKLQ1td3MbE>

1. The splendour of a King,
clothed in majesty
Let all the Earth rejoice
All the Earth rejoice
He wraps himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
Trembles at His voice

Chorus: How great is our God,
sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God
2. Age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the end
Beginning and the end

The Godhead Three in One
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb

Chorus

Bridge: Name above all names
Worthy of our praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God
You're the name above all names
You are worthy of our praise
And my heart will sing
How great is our God

Chorus x2

Bible Reading – 2 John (NIV)

¹ The elder, To the lady chosen by God and to her children, whom I love in the truth—and not I only, but also all who know the truth— ² because of the truth, which lives in us and will be with us forever: ³ Grace, mercy

and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love. ⁴ It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us. ⁵ And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another. ⁶ And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love. ⁷ I say this because many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist. ⁸ Watch out that you do not lose what we have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully. ⁹ Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. ¹⁰ If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take them into your house or welcome them. ¹¹ Anyone who welcomes them shares in their wicked work. ¹² I have much to write to you, but I do not want to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to visit you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete. ¹³ The children of your sister, who is chosen by God, send their greetings.

Announcements 23/7/23

New Member. It is exciting today to welcome Dot O as a new member of our Swansea congregation as she today makes her profession of faith.

Peacemakers Seminar. On Saturday 12th August we have invited PeaceWise ministries to run a whole day seminar (9am-4pm) on finding help and hope in a conflict. Biblical principles that help toward peacemaking. We ran this course 4-5 years and it was extremely helpful and people were able to apply it to their family, work and church situations. It is expensive \$75pp but if you come you will find it will be worth it. For more details see Jo Barlow.

Focus for the month – Hospitality. Often one of the best evangelistic strategies is for non-Christians to see how we live at home. How we interact as a family & as a couple. How we say grace and are thankful for what we have. How we are generous while living simply. Who we really are away from work. And this can all be done through hospitality

Activities for term 3. With the normal activities of the church starting back for term 3, why don't you see if there is something that is running that you might be interested in doing or even helping out? JOY?

Playgroup? Kids Church? Home Groups? Prayer times? Now is the time to get involved for the new term.

Hamilton Partnership. We will be meeting as a congregation at 11:20am Sunday 30th July to discuss our possible partnership with Hamilton. If you haven't been able to obtain a copy of the proposal sent out last weekend, please ask one of the ministers or elders for a copy. Stephen chaired a meeting at Hamilton last Sunday and the congregation are all very excited about the possibility of partnering with our Church and hoping that the Hunter Presbytery will appoint David Robertson as their next minister! Please keep praying!

Morning Tea Routine. Each Sunday morning tea is provided for the adults and kids of our Church. We ask that parents help us to ensure that their kids do not eat from the adults table until all the adults have come out of Church and have been served. Hot drinks are not to be served to the kids as we care for our smaller ones moving around at morning tea.

Committee of Management will be meeting this Wednesday. If you have noticed any issues with our buildings, please raise it with a member of our committee of management today.

Is someone missing at Church today? Why don't you give them a call and see how they are going?

Church Bank Account details. The best way to support our Church financially is to make a decision as to how much you are willing to give the church each week, then organise a weekly direct debit to our Church bank account Charlestown Presbyterian BSB 062 829 A/C 10194850

Pastoral Prayer Points

Pray for courage: "...the people who know their God will stand firm and take action" (Daniel 11:32b). Pray as we grow in our knowledge of God we would also grow in our courage to stand firm in the faith, and take action against injustice.

Pray for Nigeria: Pray for the dismantling of widespread corruption which cripples all levels of society – especially the government and including the church. Pray for an emphasis on discipleship and balanced Bible teaching in the Nigerian church, which continues to experience massive growth but whose teaching is often syncretistic and prosperity – based. Pray for increasingly persecuted Christians in Islamised northern states to be characterised by supernatural love and forgiveness.

Pray for government leaders: pray that God would continue to give our leaders wisdom. Pray they would recognise to True King and humble themselves before God. Pray against corruption and moral bankruptcy.

A Roche. Thank God for the discussion that Stuart Blanch had with Hazel Nesbitt from Church offices about how the local Church can become more serious about Creation Care. Pray for the work that they are doing with students in our theological colleges, with local communities with creation care projects and with Churches as they seek to model and reach out to their communities with the God news that God's good creation needs to be looked after.

Bible Reading – John 15:1-17 (NIV)

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. ⁹ "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other.

Song – My God is all I need <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SbqRCihtLyo>

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| 1. Dark, dark is the valley
Faint, the light at my feet
But whatever may face me
My God is all I need | Praise, praise to my Father be
My God is all I need |
| 2. Bright, bright are the treasures
Life may offer to me
But whatever the pleasure
My God is all I need | 3. Brief, brief are my days here
Soon my journey complete
But I look to my Saviour
Where God has met my need
Yes, He has met my need |

Chorus

Chorus
He is my strength when I cannot go on
Peace when all my power is gone
Hope, although the night is long and deep
He is my song, for He has rescued me
Joy, now He has set me free

Bridge
My God is all I need
My God is so big, so strong, and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do
My God is so big, so strong, and so mighty

There's nothing my God cannot do	
The mountains are His, the valleys are His	Repeat Bridge
The stars are His handiwork too	
My God is so big, so strong, and so mighty	Chorus
There's nothing my God cannot do	

Sermon: A Recipe for JOY – (Stephen Taylor)

I am a pretty plain cook and if I tend to be down to do the cooking, I have a list of tried-and-true recipes that I use to feed the family, or whoever tends to be at home that night. But I don't mind looking at more sophisticated recipes especially if they have pictures attached. Creamy lemon chicken piccata. Sounds wonderful. Bateka Nu Shaak, the picture attached to that was mouth-watering. Apricot & macadamia ice cream. Now that would be quite a meal

Slide 2

But as I was reading through the book of 2 John, I came across an even tastier recipe. John's recipe for JOY! For I don't know whether you noticed it, but this short letter, the second smallest in the NT begins and ends with a reference to Joy. Verse 4 *"It has given me **great joy** to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us."* John receives "great joy" at seeing his fellow Christians walking in the truth.

And at the end of the book, John concludes with these words, verse 12, *"Instead, I hope to visit you and talk with you face to face, so that **our joy** may be complete."* There is great joy in Christian fellowship. Sharing the truth about the Lord Jesus Christ with a deep love for one another. Now often when a word or a theme both begins the book and ends it then it might well be the main theme. I think this is the case in 2 John.

Now Joy is something most people are interested in. Our world seems to be chasing after fun or love or happiness but joy is something even deeper than those things. Because you can experience joy, God's joy, even when you are not enjoying yourself or you don't like what is happening to you. For joy, real joy, doesn't come from our outward circumstances, instead it comes from knowing the one who is the source of all joy. God Himself.

Slide 3

Jesus says in John 15:11 *"I have told you this so that **my joy** may be in you and that **your joy** may be complete."* The joy of the one who helped make the world is available to you and I through a relationship with Jesus. And John the Baptist says something similar *"the friend who attends the bridegroom waits and looks for him and is **full of joy** when he hears the bridegrooms voice. **That joy** is mine."* John the Baptist has real joy now that Jesus has come.

Friends if we want joy in our lives, even in the midst of our difficult times, the apostle John, the writer of this short book, has a recipe for you. And it begins with

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1. A kilo of truth (verses 1-4)

¹*"The elder, To the lady chosen by God and to her children, whom I love in **the truth**."* The apostle John is one of the last of the 12 apostles to still be alive and because of that the leadership of these fledging Churches has moved from the apostles to elders. So, John doesn't emphasise his unique role as an eyewitness to Jesus but his pastoral role as an elder in the local network of Churches. And he is writing to another local church. He calls her *"the lady chosen by God and to her children"*. And we can see he is talking about a Church because at the end of the letter he uses the same imagery to talk about his own Church context. ¹³*"The **children of your sister**, who is chosen by God, send their greetings."*

Now in this recipe for joy, John again and again emphasises **the truth**. Five times in fact in just the first 4 verses. And this truth is made up of an objective reality as well as a subjective experience. Let's have a closer look. *"The elder, To the lady chosen by God and to her children, whom I love in **the truth** —and not I only, but also all who know **the truth**."*

John is emphasising not just a truth but the truth. Who or what is the truth? John quotes Jesus in his gospel saying *"I am the way, **the truth & the life**".* It is the truth about the gospel. How God brings his wayward children back to himself through the death & resurrection of Jesus. That is the truth, that both John and the Church that he is writing to, has in common. That is the truth that brings them together, binds them together & will keep them together.

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*²"because of **the truth**, which lives in us and will be with us forever: ³Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in **truth and love**. ⁴It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the **truth**, just as the Father commanded us."*

Joy then comes from us living according to the truth. Living a life that is based on a lie, gets us nowhere. Playing fast and loose with the truth is not the source of all fun and enjoyment, no matter what others think. But when we have as foundational in our lives, truth, God's truth, then we have something rock solid to build upon both as individuals and as a Church.

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Now our society has moved away from the concept of truth. "That may be true for you but its not true to me" they now say. But I think we all know deep in our hearts that doesn't really work for everything we face in life. I was reading an article a while back that helpfully pointed out that there are two types of truth, what the author called beetroot truth and bus truth. Beetroot truth is subjective, you either like beetroot or you loathe it. The issue of right and wrong doesn't come into it, it is just a matter of taste. And many things in life do fall into this category. But the other kind of truth is bus truth. For if a bus runs over you, you will be hurt whether you believe it or not. This is objective truth and it coincides with reality.

Friends we need to be lovers of the truth. Or in John's terms we need to walk in the truth. We should seek out truth from the pulpit, from books, from conversations, from a study of the Bible. Truth gives us an anchor holding us fast to the realities of God's world. Truth shows us how to live life, as there is a right way and a wrong way to live. Truth gives us a sense of meaning in a world that seems to be going in a million different directions all of at once. Joy will only come to us if we look for our kilo of truth that is found in God's word and ultimately in God's son Jesus.

Truth, God's truth is the hero of this dish. Truth, God's truth is the basis for our joy. But friends can I point out that it is easier to study the truth, or to argue over the truth than it is to practise the truth. We need to not just know it but to trust it and walk in it. Which means that the second element to our recipe needs to be mixed in with the first. For we also need

Slide 7

2. To add a cup of love to the kilo of truth (Verses 1-6)

For if truth is mentioned 5 times in these verses, love is also mentioned four times. *"Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth **and love**. ⁴It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us.*

*⁵And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we **love one another**. ⁶And **this is love**: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you **walk in love**."*

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Love is the key to a joyous life. And I think we all know that instinctively. That is why we chase love. That is why we look for love. That is why we are willing to take risks for love. For we know that if we truly love someone and they love us, then joy will not be too far away.

And John is telling us that this love comes from God the Father and his Son Jesus Christ. And we respond to this love by obeying his commandments. And we share that love by spreading it around and by loving one another. You see love changes us. It changes what we believe, it changes how we live and it changes who we are. So, we are not just to walk in truth but we are called to also walk in love.

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So, it is important that we get the balance right. We can't just emphasise truth and centre our thoughts on doctrinal matters, insisting that the Scriptures be followed meticulously but at the expense of love. Sometimes the body of believers is like this. Rigid and cold and judgemental. We want to keep the truth of God's word no matter what and we make the mistake of forgetting about love. But then we can make the exact opposite mistake.

We can emphasise love at the expense of truth. We feel so sorry for people that we accept them no matter what they have done, we tolerate all sorts of errors and in the end that sort of love loses its focus on truth and becomes wishy washy. The key then is to keep truth and love in balance. And this is what we see so beautifully in Jesus. He walked in truth and love.

He could deal tenderly with the sinner and reach out beautifully to the outcast of society but he could also deliver that blistering word to the Pharisees who was putting on an appearance and projecting a fake godliness to all around them. Jesus spoke the truth and he did it in a loving way. And he loved others in a way that demonstrated God's truth. Truth and love are the twin rails that Christianity runs on and Jesus shows us that perfectly.

So, what if you find that you are weak in the love department? If you need a shot in the arm to help you to love God more or love those difficult people around you even more? Well, the answer is found in John's first letter "*We love because he first loved us.*" (1 John 4:19) We go back to the truth of God's word. We soak ourselves in the gospel of the Lord Jesus. We open ourselves up again to God's love for us. We travel back to the cross of Calvary where we remember that God loves me and gave himself up for me. We feed our minds and our hearts on God's everlasting love. Where we see truth & love working perfectly together.

Slide 10

In the words of preacher David Jackman "*when the love of God is not a present reality to us, we need to take that medicine, three times a day, after meals, until our spiritual appetite begins to pick up and we begin to respond in awe at God's overwhelming grace and love.*" But there is a third main ingredient, obedience, in this recipe for joy you also need

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3. A handful of Obedience (Verses 4-6)

You see John now begins to emphasise God's commands, it is also mentioned 5 times. You see John wants us to know how vital it is that we are actually obeying God's commands.

⁴"It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father **commanded** us. ⁵And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new **command** but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another. ⁶And this is love: that we **walk in obedience to his commands**. As you have heard from the beginning, his **command** is that you walk in love."

Walk in truth. Walk in love and walk in obedience. For how do we know what true love looks like other than by doing what the God of love tells us to do? And how do we react best to God's truth? By not just

reading it or studying it but obeying it. So, obedience is the glue that keeps us focusing on both truth and love. That is why our recipe says we need to mix well these three elements of love, truth and obedience.

Slide 12

There's a tapestry in the cathedral at Lukeb, Germany that I think puts it well.

You call me master and obey me not;	You call me light and seek me not
You call me the way and walk with me not;	You call me wise and follow me not:
You call me fair and love me not	You call me rich and ask me not
You call me eternal and seek me not;	You call me gracious and trust me not;
You call me noble and serve me not;	You call me mighty and honour me not;
You call me just and fear me not;	So, if I condemn you, blame me not.

Friends, its one thing to know the truth, it another to be obedient to that truth. It's one thing to say you love God and love your neighbour, it's another thing to put that into practise. So, obedience is added to truth and love. So, we have these three ingredients in our recipe for joy – truth, love and obedience. And our recipe tells us to mix these ingredients well.

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You see it is in believing the truth that we are saved. The proof of that salvation is show in our love for others and our obedience to God's truth. And both of those things will grow when the one who is the truth, the Lord Jesus lives within us. His love allows us to love the unlovely. His love draws us closer and closer to our loving heavenly Father. And it is his obedience to the truth that strengths us and enables us to obey the commands of the Father. As Martin Luther King once said *"I believe unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. That is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil."*

So, are you lacking joy? Then look at what you are putting in the recipe for your life? Is there enough truth there or do you need to spend more time with the truth of God's word? Are there adequate measures of love there, if not meditate on the God of love. Is there a full measure of obedience in your walk, if not spend more time walking with Jesus. And as if to prove how good this recipe really is John goes onto apply it to a difficult situation, the appearance of false teachers into the life of the church.

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4. Place in a Hot over (v7-11)

Because in verse 7 the arc of the letter changes. From engaging truth to opposing error. And it is like these ingredients of truth, love and obedience are now placed in a hot oven. The blowtorch of a difficult situation is applied to this recipe and we get a case study of how this all works in the real world.

Slide 15

⁷*"I say this because many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist. ⁸ Watch out that you do not lose what we have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully. ⁹ Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son."*

Slide 16

You see we live in a world where God's truth is hotly contested. Where there are some who are more interested in greed than creed. All around us are people who are trying to deceive us and who are opposing or who are anti-Christ. Look at what these false teachers are doing. They do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. They don't believe that Jesus is both God and man from the very beginning.

They might think that Jesus is a man, a spirit filled man. Or they might acknowledge that he is from God the Father. But Jesus the Messiah has come in the flesh. The virgin birth allows this child to be both God & man, but that just does the false teachers head in. "He can't be both, just one or the other". But he has to

be both. He has to represent both God and man in this new covenant. Perfect like God. Vulnerable like man. Able to know God perfectly as a member of the Trinity and yet able to relate to all of mankind. Living his life here on earth.

So, what do you do when a teacher turns up and wants to teach you that Jesus isn't both God & man? Or according to v9 they are running ahead of the teachings of Jesus by adding a Christ plus or Grace plus gospel. Or starting with Christ, yes, he is very important but not continuing in the teaching of Christ and ending up in a place of human wisdom instead of God's wisdom. How do you balance truth, love and obedience in that sort of a situation?

Because we see that all the time today, don't we? The prosperity doctrine on the TV. The cults coming and knocking on our door. The internet chat rooms where the person you are talking to you claims to have more hidden knowledge. The Christian book that claims to give you the missing puzzle piece to a life of joy. It's everywhere, isn't it? It's even in our Churches. No denomination is completely immune. No movement perfectly represents God. Even great Churches can wander away from the truth over time.

Slide 17

I was reading a couple of weeks ago what someone described as the Mathematics of the Cults. They either **ADD** an extra biblical source of authority by prophet, pen or professor. Or they **SUBTRACT** from the person and work of Christ. They deny his deity or the fullness of his salvation offered to us. Or they seek to **DIVIDE** our allegiance from God through Christ alone to others. Or they **MULTIPY** the requirements for salvation by adding a component of works religion.

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So, what do you do when these guys come with their spiritual calculators and try & deceive you? ¹⁰ *"If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take them into your house or welcome them. ¹¹ Anyone who welcomes them shares in their wicked work."*

Don't let them stay with you. Don't give them a platform to teach others. Don't recommend their books to others. Don't tell your friends and family to watch their TV programmes or internet sermons. The best way to love them is point out their errors. The best way to love others is to protect them from this kind of false teaching. The best way to be obedient is to make sure their teachings doesn't infiltrate your own thinking.

Yes, still love them, love them so much that you point them to the truth. Yes, you can invite them in so that you can talk through the issues clearly with them. But don't give them a base from which to work. Don't provide them with help that will lead others to being deceived.

Slide 19

The JW's came to the door of someone I know not that long ago. And she listened to them for 10 minutes and asked them to listen to her for 10 minutes and when she was getting nowhere, she asked them to leave and as they left, they said do you know of anyone else in this street we could visit? And she said to them, really? I have just been telling you that you have a wrong view of salvation and you are asking me for a recommendation as to whom to visit next? No just go!

Of course, the flip side is if they are genuine and are promoting truth, love and obedience you should bend over backwards to help them get this message out. Pray for them. Financially support them if you are able, get beside them. There is so much error in our world, lets makes sure God's truth and God's love gets out there as far & wide as possible.

Slide 20

You see when truth and love and obedience is mixed well and placed in a hot oven, the flavour of God becomes more and more intense. The taste of joy is available to more and more people. And that means that at the end of the recipe you are ready to serve your dish. And this recipe for joy will **serve many**.

Many, many people. It will serve yourself well. It will serve your family well. It will serve your church family well. And there will even be enough to serve your community, nation and world as well.

Slide 21

You see this recipe for joy is not just for us, it for everyone. People like the elder John will see you walking in love and obedience and it will bring them great joy. Those who are on the outside of the church may see the integrity of your life and want to explore the claims of Christ more closely. And you will be walking along the road that God has clearly signposted for you. And that will bring you great, great joy as well. And that sort of joy is contagious and soon everyone else will be asking for the recipe.

But that sort of deep-seated joy is a whole of life thing. Where you learn the truth of God's word with your mind, you experience the love of God with your hearts and you live the truth as you walk with Him. And that leads to one last aspect of joy, you will bring joy to your heavenly father. And isn't that what the Christian walk is all about. It's not really about you, it's all about HIM. And if our small and puny lives could bring great joy to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, how good would that be?

So don't forget the recipe for joy. Add a kilo of truth, a cup of love and a handful of obedience and mix well. Place in a hot oven. Cook well. For this dish will serve many.

Song – This Life I live [This Life I Live \(Song Leading Video\) // Emu Music - YouTube](#)

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| <p>1. 1. This life I live is not my own,
For my redeemer paid the price.
He took it to be his alone,
To be his treasure and his prize.
The things of earth I leave behind
To live in worship of my King.
His is the right to rule my life,
Mine is the joy to live for him.</p> <p>2. I died to sin upon the cross
I'm bound to Jesus in his death
The old is gone, and now I must
Rely on him for every breath
With every footstep that I tread
What mysteries he has in store
I cannot know what lies ahead
But know that he has gone before.</p> | <p>3. There is a voice that pierced the grave
A power that rolled the stone away
A sound of life, I know I'm saved
The voice of God has called my name
So I will rise, and in the air
Behold the glory of the King
I will not fear to meet him there
I know my life is hid with him.</p> |
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Benediction ⁴ *"It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us." (2 John 4)*