

Theme for 2023-2024 School Year: Joy



Thou wilt make known to me the path of life; In Thy presence is fullness of joy; In Thy right hand there are pleasures forever.
Psalm 16:11

Each year at Veritas we focus on a theme as a school body. The theme will be woven into the school classroom and we strongly encourage you to try and weave it into the home classroom as well. Each quarter of the school year we will have a different Bible verse(s) to correspond with the theme. Consider posting these verses in your home classroom so we can partner together in this endeavor.

This year's theme is **Joy**. Joy is inner gladness produced by the Holy Spirit, in any situation whether it be a calm sea or a violent storm. Jesus gives us His words in the Bible to point us toward joy in any circumstance (John 15:11).

Our current climate is a tricky one for those who are followers of Jesus, who believe that Jesus is the only way and that the Bible is inerrant. The nature of life right now demands that we must persevere amidst trials and stand up for what we believe to be true. In this time, it's easy to become frustrated with the constant need to stand against the tide of deception. But we must not forget that Christ calls us not only to stand, **but to stand in a joyful way**. We are to be different. We are to stand up for truth, joyfully, not in an angry manner. Our joy will set us apart from those who call themselves Christians, but have no idea what it really means. Our joy amidst hard times will show what we really believe and Who we believe in, because we know the One who is the Ultimate Truth. This joyful stand will be our witness for Christ in this godless generation.

As you sow these verses into your soul, may they strengthen you as you persevere in the race of life, seeking the One Who is full of joy and Who is worthy to be followed. May these verses support you as you stand with the One Who will give each of us the joy we need to persevere and walk each day until we cross that finish line and get to be with Christ, our Savior, our Lord and our Redeemer.

Quarterly Memory Verses:

1st Quarter: Joy in the Lord and in our Salvation!

1 Peter 1:8-9 and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

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

2nd Quarter: *Joy in the Race of the everyday Christian life*

Romans 15:13 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.

John 16:24 "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be made full.

Psalms 16:11 Thou wilt make known to me the path of life; In Thy presence is fulness of joy; In Thy right hand there are pleasures forever.

3rd Quarter: *Joy in the Unity of the Believers*

Philippians 2:1 If therefore there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, ² make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

Nehemiah 8:10b Do not be grieved, **for the joy of the LORD is your strength**

4th Quarter: *Joy in Persecution*

James 1:2-4 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have *its* perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Psalms 30:5 For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime; Weeping may last for the night, But a shout of joy *comes* in the morning.

More Verses on Joy:

John 16:22 "Therefore you too now have sorrow; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one takes your joy away from you.

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Psalms 32:11 Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous ones, And shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart.