Joy That Doesn't Go Away: Embracing the Gift of Children



Explore the enduring joy children bring through God's promises and love in this 7-day Bible study plan.





Table of contents

<u>Introduction</u>	3
Day 1: The Blessing of Children	4
<u>Day 2: ₩ Childlike Trust and Joy</u>	10
Day 3: 🏂 Joy in New Life and Promise	16
Day 4: The Joy of Loving and Teaching Children	22
Day 5: Protecting the Innocence and Joy of Children	28
Day 6: Joy in Generations to Come	34
Day 7: 🔆 Living in the Joy of God's Kingdom	40







Introduction

Children hold a special place in God's heart and His plans for humanity. They are symbols of hope, renewal, and joy that can endure through every circumstance. In this 7-day study, we will explore what the Bible teaches about children, the joy they bring, and how that joy is rooted not only in fleeting moments but in God's eternal promises. *Our focus is on joy that doesn't fade* — *a deep, abiding joy that arises from trusting God's character and care.*

Throughout Scripture, children remind us of innocence, dependence, and the miracle of new life. They also exemplify the humility and trust that Jesus commendably praises. By studying these passages and reflections, you will gain a renewed perspective on embracing joy in the midst of challenges, understanding how God delights in children and invites us all to experience the blessedness of His kingdom through childlike faith.

As we journey together, let your heart open to the profound truths and promises revealed through God's Word regarding children. Texperience hope, peace, and joy that remains steadfast, no matter the season of life or trial you face. These reflections will empower you to see children—and the joy they represent—from God's loving viewpoint.

Let's begin this celebration of life, hope, and unwavering joy grounded in God's steadfast love.

















Your Verse

Psalm 127:3 - "Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from him."

Supporting Scriptures

- Matthew 19:14 "Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."
- Proverbs 17:6 "Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children."







Devotional: Recognizing Children as God's Precious Gifts

Children are a special blessing from God. Psalm 127:3 reminds us that children are not just our own achievements—they are a heritage, a precious reward from the Lord Himself. This truth invites us to see children as gifts entrusted to us by God, meant to enrich our lives and glorify Him.

Jesus Himself emphasized the value of children by welcoming them openly, teaching us that their innocence, trust, and humility are qualities that reflect the heart of the kingdom of God. When we embrace children as God's blessings rather than merely responsibilities, our perspective shifts toward gratitude and joy.

Moreover, Proverbs tells us that children and grandchildren bring pride and honor to families, creating a legacy of faith and love. This ongoing blessing reflects God's faithfulness across generations.

As we begin, remember to celebrate the gift of children and allow God's perspective to deepen your joy today—for such joy does not fade, because it is rooted in God's unchanging love and purposes.







Reflect and Apply

	How do you currently view children in your life or community? As blessings or burdens?
	In what ways can you shift your perspective to see children as a direct gift from God?
3.	What qualities in children reflect the heart of God and His kingdom?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a joyful memory involving a child that reminds you of God's blessings.
2.	List three ways children have influenced your faith or understanding of God.
3.	Reflect on God's faithfulness across generations in your family.







Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for the precious gift of children. Help me to see them through Your eyes—as blessings and treasures. Teach me to honor and nurture them with love and patience, and to embrace the joy they bring as a reflection of Your generosity. May this joy in Your gifts sustain me always, even through challenges. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*











Day 2: **\$\langle\$** Childlike Trust and Joy









Your Verse

Matthew 18:3 - "And he said: 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Supporting Scriptures

- Mark 10:16 "And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them."
- Psalm 131:2 "But I have calmed and quieted myself, I am like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child I am content."







Devotional: Embracing Childlike Trust To Find Lasting Joy

Joy that doesn't go away often begins with childlike trust. Jesus calls us to become like little children — embracing humility, dependence, and a heart open to receive God's love unconditionally. In doing so, we access a deep joy rooted not in circumstances but in our relationship with Him.

Notice how Jesus welcomed children, holding them close and blessing them. This act of care reveals God's tender heart for those who trust Him simply and completely. Likewise, Psalm 131 shows us an example of peaceful contentment when resting quietly like a child trusting their mother's care.

When life presents challenges, cultivating this childlike trust can transform our hearts, moving joy beyond surface happiness to steady hope. This is the joy that doesn't go away, because it rests on God's faithfulness and presence in every moment.







Reflect and Apply

1.	What does it mean to you to become like a little child in your faith?
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	How can you practice trusting God more fully today, like a child trusts a parent?
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	When life is difficult, how can recalling God's blessing and care bring you oy?
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Journaling Prompts

1.	Describe a time when trust in God brought you peace and joy.
2.	Write a prayer asking God to help you trust Him like a child.
3.	List ways to cultivate humility and openness in your relationship with God.







Prayer for Today

Father, teach me to trust You with a child's heart. When worries come, remind me to rest in Your care and perfect plan. Fill me with a joy rooted in Your unchanging love, a joy that carries me through every circumstance. Help me to receive Your blessings with gratitude and faith. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*



















Day 3: 🦫 Joy in New Life and Promise

Your Verse

Luke 1:44 - "As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy."

Supporting Scriptures

- Isaiah 54:13 "All your children will be taught by the LORD, and great will be their peace."
- Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."







Day 3: 🦫 Joy in New Life and Promise

Devotional: Seeing Children as Living Promises of Hope

The anticipation of new life brings joy that transcends human understanding. In Luke 1, even the unborn John the Baptist leapt for joy at the presence of Mary, who carried Jesus—the promised Savior. This is a powerful reminder that children symbolize God's promises and the hope of new beginnings.

Isaiah assures us that children will be taught and experience peace under the Lord's guidance, highlighting God's ongoing commitment to their growth and flourishing. Jeremiah underscores this hope by proclaiming God's plans for a hopeful future.

When we see children as living reminders of God's faithfulness to His promises, our hearts can overflow with joy that does not wane. We can rest in the certainty that God is at work, bringing hope and renewing life through each generation.







Day 3: 🥕 Joy in New Life and Promise

Reflect and Apply

1.	How do children remind you of God's promises in your life?
2.	In what ways can you celebrate new beginnings with hope and joy?
3.	How can anticipating God's plans for the future give you peace today?







Day 3: 🥕 Joy in New Life and Promise

Journaling Prompts

1.	Reflect on a time you experienced hope renewed through a child's life or story.
2.	Write about what it means to you that God plans a hopeful future.
3.	List ways you can encourage and nurture hope in children around you.







Day 3: 🦫 Joy in New Life and Promise

Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for the gift of new life and Your faithful promises. Help me to see children as joyful signs of Your hope and future plans. May this hope fill me with peace and unshakable joy, even in uncertain times. Teach me to trust Your perfect timing as I celebrate the life You give. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Your Verse

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - "These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Ephesians 6:4 "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."
- Proverbs 22:6 "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."







Devotional: Nurturing Children with Love and Godly Wisdom

Loving children means actively speaking God's truths into their lives.

Deuteronomy calls us to impress God's commandments on our children, weaving spiritual teaching into everyday life. This intentional nurture establishes a foundation of joy rooted in knowing and trusting God.

Ephesians encourages parents not to provoke frustration but to lovingly guide children with patience and godly instruction, fostering a growth-oriented environment. Proverbs promises that early teaching shapes lifelong paths—an enduring source of joy for family and community.

When we choose to love and teach children with God's wisdom, we participate in the joy of seeing lives transformed and faith passed down. This joy is enduring because it connects with God's kingdom purposes, producing fruit beyond our immediate view.







Reflect and Apply

	How can you intentionally share God's truth with the children in your life?
2.	What are some ways to teach and model joy grounded in faith?
	How does loving discipline contribute to lasting joy in family relationships?







Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a spiritual lesson you learned as a child that still impacts you.
2.	List practical ways you can encourage children's faith today.
3.	Reflect on how teaching children brings joy to your own walk with God.







Prayer for Today

Father, guide me as I love and teach the children You have placed in my life. Help me to communicate Your truth with patience and grace, nurturing faith that leads to lasting joy. May the seeds I plant grow into a strong heritage of hope and love. Thank You for entrusting me with this sacred responsibility. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Your Verse

Matthew 18:6 - "If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck..."

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 91:11 "For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."
- Isaiah 49:15 "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne?"







Devotional: Guarding the Precious Joy and Innocence of Children

God takes the protection of children seriously because their joy and innocence are precious to Him. Jesus warns strongly against causing children to stumble, underscoring the responsibility adults have to safeguard their spiritual well-being.

Psalm 91 comforts us with the assurance that God's angels guard His people, including children, ensuring constant divine protection. Isaiah's imagery of a mother's compassion reminds us of God's unending care and concern for the vulnerable.

As followers of Christ, we are called to create safe environments where children can experience joy, grow in faith, and remain secure in God's love. Protecting their innocence is protecting the very heart of God's kingdom joy.







Reflect and Apply

	What are some ways you can guard the joy and faith of children around you?
	How does knowing God's protection impact your sense of responsibility toward children?
3.	How can you encourage safe, loving spaces in your community or family?
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Journaling Prompts

1.	Reflect on ways you have seen children's joy protected or harmed.
2.	Write a prayer asking God to help you be a protector of children's faith and innocence.
3.	List practical actions to foster safe environments for children.







Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for valuing children so deeply. Help me to protect their joy and innocence, to be vigilant in creating safe spaces where they can grow in faith and love. Strengthen me to act with compassion and wisdom, reflecting Your heart for the most vulnerable. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*



















Day 6: 6 Joy in Generations to Come

Your Verse

Psalm 128:3-4 - "Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. Yes, this will be the blessing for the man who fears the LORD."

Supporting Scriptures

- Joel 1:3 "Tell it to your children, and let your children tell it to their children, and their children to the next generation."
- 2 Timothy 1:5 "I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also."







Day 6: 6 Joy in Generations to Come

Devotional: Passing Joy and Faith to Future Generations

The joy of children extends into the future through generations. Psalm 128 paints a beautiful picture of family flourishing under God's blessing, with children as thriving shoots around the table. This reflects the joy of God's promises carried forward.

Joel encourages us to pass God's truths from one generation to the next, ensuring that joy rooted in God's Word continues undiminished. Paul's words to Timothy highlight the importance of faith passed down through godly heritage.

Our joy today is magnified as we consider how children and grandchildren become living legacies of God's faithfulness, hope, and love. Embracing this encourages us to sow faith and joy generously for generations to come.







Day 6: 🌈 Joy in Generations to Come

Reflect and Apply

1.	What legacy of faith and joy do you hope to leave for future generations?
2.	How can you actively share God's promises with children and grandchildren?
3.	In what ways do you see your faith connected to previous generations?







Day 6: 🌈 Joy in Generations to Come

Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a story or faith lesson passed down in your family.
2.	List ways to encourage younger generations in their relationship with God.
3.	Reflect on how you want to nurture a legacy of joy through faith.







Day 6: 6 Joy in Generations to Come

Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of generations. Help me to pass down Your joy and truth to those who come after me. May my words and actions nurture faith that lasts, creating a heritage of hope and love rooted in You. Strengthen the bonds of family and faith through all generations. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Your Verse

Romans 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."

Supporting Scriptures

- Nehemiah 8:10 "The joy of the LORD is your strength."
- John 15:11 "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."







Devotional: Abiding in God's Everlasting Joy and Peace

Our study concludes with the reminder that joy rooted in God's kingdom is abundant and sustaining. Romans tells us that when we trust God, He fills us with joy and peace — a joy empowered by the Holy Spirit that overflows beyond ourselves.

Nehemiah confirms this by assuring us that the joy of the Lord becomes our strength, enabling us to persevere even in difficult times. Jesus desires for us to have complete joy, not just temporary happiness.

As we embrace the gift of children and the childlike trust we celebrated at the beginning, let us live in this full joy — a joy that doesn't go away but endures eternally in God's presence and promises. Let today be a celebration of life, hope, and the abundant joy of God's kingdom.







Reflect and Apply

1.	Where are you experiencing God's joy most deeply right now?
2.	How can trusting God more fully increase your peace and hope?
3.	What practical steps can help you live out God's joy daily?







Journaling Prompts

	Describe what it means to you to have the joy of the Lord as your strength.
2.	Write a prayer inviting the Holy Spirit to fill you with lasting joy.
3.	List ways you can share the joy of God's kingdom with others.







Prayer for Today

Lord of hope and joy, fill me anew with Your peace and strength. Help me to trust You deeply so that Your joy may overflow in my life, sustaining me in every season. May I live as a reflection of Your kingdom's joy, sharing it generously with others, especially the children You have gifted. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*









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