

MAY 25

1 Peter 2:16 Act as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as bond-slaves of God.

DISCUSS USING YOUR FREEDOM AS A BONDSLAVE TO GOD.

Ask God to help you value Him above your freedom to do evil.

MAY 26

Nahum 1:15 Behold, on the mountains the feet of him who brings good news, Who announces peace! Celebrate your feasts, O Judah; Pay your vows. For never again will the wicked one pass through you; He is cut off completely.

WHAT PRICE WOULD YOU SET ON PEACE?

Thank God that your soul is sealed and your life is secure.

MAY 27

1 Corinthians 5:8 Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

WHO DO YOU KNOW WHO IS AN EXAMPLE OF SINCERITY AND TRUTH?

Ask God to help you live in all of your relationships with sincerity and truth.

MAY 1

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

WHY DOES THE LORD WANT HIS PEOPLE TO REJOICE IN HIM ALWAYS?

Ask God to help your lifelong, abiding attitude to be one of rejoicing in Him.



MINUTE^W/GOD

MAY 2021

ABOUT

God celebrates with joy over His creation, and especially over the people He created who turn to Him and trust in Him. He commands us to celebrate as well, and especially to celebrate Him for Who He is and what He has done! This month, we focus on the great joy of the God Who in joy created all that is. God wants His people to be full of joy and praise all the time, and He sent His Spirit to empower, lead, and inspire us to rejoice in Him. So rejoice!

MAY 3

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is righteous and endowed with salvation, humble, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

HAS ANYONE IN YOUR FAMILY EVER BEEN PART OF A VICTORY PARADE? HOW DOES OUR SALVATION PLACE US IN A SPIRITUAL VICTORY PARADE?

Thank God that you get to be part of Jesus' victory parade!

MAY 28

Exodus 31:16 So the sons of Israel shall observe the sabbath, to celebrate the sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant.

WHAT FREEDOM DO YOU FIND IN REST, PRAYER, AND CONTEMPLATING GOD?

Thank God for the freedom to observe the sabbath.



MAY 29

Psalm 47:1 For the choir director. A Psalm of the sons of Korah. O clap your hands, all peoples; Shout to God with the voice of joy.

WHY DO PEOPLE USUALLY CLAP AND SHOUT?

Ask God to help you be more excited about Him and what He is doing than anything else on earth.

MAY 2

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

WHAT THINGS CAUSE YOU TO SHOUT WITH JOY?

Shout with joy to the Lord!

MAY 6

1 Samuel 2:1 Then Hannah prayed and said, "My heart rejoices in the LORD; my horn is exalted in the LORD, my mouth speaks boldly against my enemies, because I rejoice in Your salvation."

WHAT ARE SOME GOOD THINGS GOING ON IN YOUR LIFE THAT YOU SHOULD USE AS OCCASIONS TO REJOICE IN THE LORD?

Name some good things God is doing and rejoice in Him!

MAY 5

Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

TELL ABOUT A FRIEND WHO IS REALLY GOOD AT REJOICING AND WEeping WITH YOU.

Ask God to make you the kind of friend who can both rejoice and weep well when others need it.

MAY 4

Psalm 5:11 But rejoice, all who take refuge in You, Sing for joy forever! And may You shelter them, that those who love Your name may rejoice in You.

HOW DOES HAVING GOD AS A REFUGE MAKE YOU REJOICE?

Rejoice that God is your refuge and shelter!

MAY 31

Psalm 126:1-3 When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with joyful shouting; Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us; We are joyful.

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOU WERE A CAPTIVE AND THEN WERE SET FREE?

Thank God that He set you free from sin!

MAY 30

Isaiah 55:12 For you will go out with joy and be led forth with peace; The mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

HOW DO THE PICTURES OF CREATION'S EXCITEMENT HELP US BETTER UNDERSTAND JOY AND PEACE THAT COMES FROM GOD?

Thank God for His joy and peace and the excitement that comes from knowing and serving Him.



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<p>MAY 7</p> <p>1 Thessalonians 5:16 Rejoice always!</p> <p>HOW DOES THIS SIMPLE PHRASE AFFECT YOU?</p> <p>Ask God to help you learn to rejoice always.</p>	<p>MAY 8</p> <p>Psalm 145:6-7 People will speak of the power of Your awesome acts, and I will tell of Your greatness. They will burst forth in speaking of Your abundant goodness, and will shout joyfully of Your righteousness.</p> <p>WHAT ARE SOME AWESOME, GREAT, GOOD, AND RIGHTEOUS THINGS ABOUT GOD?</p> <p>Thank God for those things.</p>	<p>MAY 9</p> <p>Psalm 95:1-2 Come, let's sing for joy to the LORD, let's shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation. Let's come before His presence with a song of thanksgiving, let's shout joyfully to Him in songs with instruments.</p> <p>WHY ARE MUSIC AND SINGING SUCH A BIG PART OF MOST OF OUR FUN TIMES?</p> <p>Sing to the Lord!</p>	<p>MAY 10</p> <p>Psalm 98:8 Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy.</p> <p>HOW DOES THIS COMMAND TELLING NATURE TO REJOICE IMPACT YOU?</p> <p>Thank God that His command to rejoice is not just for you but for the whole creation.</p>	<p>MAY 11</p> <p>1 Samuel 4:5-6 And as the ark of the covenant of the LORD was coming into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth resounded. When the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, "What does the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews mean?" Then they understood that the ark of the Lord had come into the camp.</p> <p>WHY IS THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD SUCH A GREAT REASON TO REJOICE?</p> <p>Rejoice because God's great presence is with us.</p>	<p>MAY 12</p> <p>Ezra 3:11 They sang, praising and giving thanks to the Lord, saying, "For He is good, for His loving-kindness is upon Israel forever." And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the Lord because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.</p> <p>WHEN HAS GOD'S FAITHFUL LOVE CAUSED YOU TO REJOICE?</p> <p>Thank God that His faithful love is worth shouting about!</p>
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<p>MAY 13</p> <p>Psalm 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.</p> <p>WHY ARE SORROW AND JOY SO OFTEN TIED TOGETHER?</p> <p>Thank God for His joy that overcomes our sorrow.</p>	<p>MAY 14</p> <p>Psalm 65:8 They who dwell in the ends of the earth stand in awe of Your signs; You make the dawn and the sunset shout for joy.</p> <p>WHEN HAS A DAWN OR A SUNSET TAKEN YOUR BREATH AWAY IN AWE AND PRAISE?</p> <p>Thank God for the awesome beauty He gives us every day.</p>	<p>MAY 15</p> <p>Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.</p> <p>WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SONG ABOUT GRATITUDE?</p> <p>Sing your favorite gratitude song to the Lord.</p>	<p>MAY 16</p> <p>1 Chronicles 16:23 Sing to the Lord, all the earth; Proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day.</p> <p>WHAT KEEPS YOU FROM JOINING ALL CREATION IN SINGING TO THE LORD EVERY DAY?</p> <p>Ask God to help you join creation in singing to Him every day.</p>	<p>MAY 17</p> <p>Ephesians 5:18b-20 But be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your hearts to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our God and Father.</p> <p>HOW DO THE PARTS OF THIS VERSE RELATE TO ONE ANOTHER?</p> <p>Give thanks for all things.</p>	<p>MAY 18</p> <p>Exodus 15:1 Then Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song to the Lord, and said, "I will sing to the Lord, for He is highly exalted; The horse and its rider He has hurled into the sea."</p> <p>WHAT HAD HAPPENED THAT MADE THIS EVENT SUCH A GREAT TIME FOR PRAISING GOD?</p> <p>Thank God for a great thing He has done for you.</p>
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<p>MAY 19</p> <p>Psalm 98:1 O sing to the Lord a new song, For He has done wonderful things, His right hand and His holy arm have gained the victory for Him.</p> <p>HOW ARE GOD'S VICTORY AND YOURS RELATED?</p> <p>Thank God that He is victorious and will win the final victory.</p>	<p>MAY 20</p> <p>Psalm 104:33 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.</p> <p>WHY IS PRAISING GOD SO VITAL TO LIVING A JOYFUL LIFE?</p> <p>Praise God for His many blessings, and commit yourself today to praise Him all your life.</p>	<p>MAY 21</p> <p>Acts 16:25 But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.</p> <p>WHERE WERE THESE MEN, AND WHAT DID THEY HAVE TO SING AND PRAISE GOD FOR?</p> <p>Ask God to help you sing and praise God even when outside things seem bleak.</p>	<p>MAY 22</p> <p>Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners.</p> <p>HOW DOES THIS OLD TESTAMENT PROMISE POINT TO JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD?</p> <p>Thank God for His Spirit's work in Jesus' earthly ministry.</p>	<p>MAY 23</p> <p>2 Corinthians 3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.</p> <p>ON THIS PENTECOST DAY, WHAT ARE SOME FACETS OF LIBERTY THAT THE SPIRIT HAS BROUGHT INTO YOUR LIFE?</p> <p>Thank God for His Holy Spirit, Who works freedom into our brokenness and brings us great joy!</p>	<p>MAY 24</p> <p>Galatians 5:13 It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.</p> <p>WHAT IS THE YOKE OF SLAVERY, AND HOW DOES IT SLIP BACK INTO OUR LIVES SO EASILY?</p> <p>Ask God to help you stand firm in the freedom of Jesus Christ.</p>
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