

Guard Your Joy: Beware of Joy Robbers

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

Have you ever felt like your heart had been robbed of joy? Though our problems can make us feel this way sometimes, we learn in the book of Philippians that joy is something that cannot be stolen from us. Joy is a command, and Paul tells us that we are to rejoice in the Lord always, regardless of our present circumstances (Philippians 4:4-5). If God desires for all His children to be joyful, how do we protect ourselves from losing our joy? In the final chapter of Philippians, we learn of three robbers that can steal our joy and how we can protect ourselves against them.

Worry

Worry is one of the craftiest thieves of joy. The Greek word for worry is *merimnao*, which means to have a divided mind due to concerns. Many of us carry anxiety or divided minds over things like money, health, relationships, or fear of what is to come, but Philippians 4:6 tells us to “be anxious for nothing”. Instead of letting worry rob you of your joy, let worry become a trigger for you to pray (Philippians 4:7). Matthew 6:31-34 reminds us that our Heavenly Father knows what we need and that He will faithfully provide for us. If we truly trust God as sovereign and as our provider, we can let go of our worries and entrust them to His care.

Wrong Thinking

What we allow our minds to focus on will eventually affect our lives. Philippians 4:8 teaches us how to think in order to maintain our joy. Instead of dwelling

on lies or things that are shameful, we are called to fill our minds with things that are true, honorable, and praiseworthy. Our minds are a battlefield, and when we fill it with wrong thinking, we can easily be robbed of joy. God's Word reminds us of the power of the mind, and it urges us to take every thought captive (2 Corinthians 10:3-5). When we saturate our minds with the truths of Scripture, we can consciously hold on to the assurance of God's promises to us and see our circumstances from His perspective.

Covetousness

Comparison is the death of contentment. When we constantly covet what we do not have, we can make these desires our “gods” and lose our joy. Even while in prison, Paul was able to find contentment not because of what he had, but because of Who he had. He boldly declared, “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me”, emphasizing that his contentment did not come from material possession but from Christ alone. The antidote for covetousness is generosity – givers are happier than takers! As we generously give to those in need, we can trust that God will supply for our needs in return (Philippians 4:18).

last week's
memory
verse

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

PHILIPPIANS 4:4

discuss this message

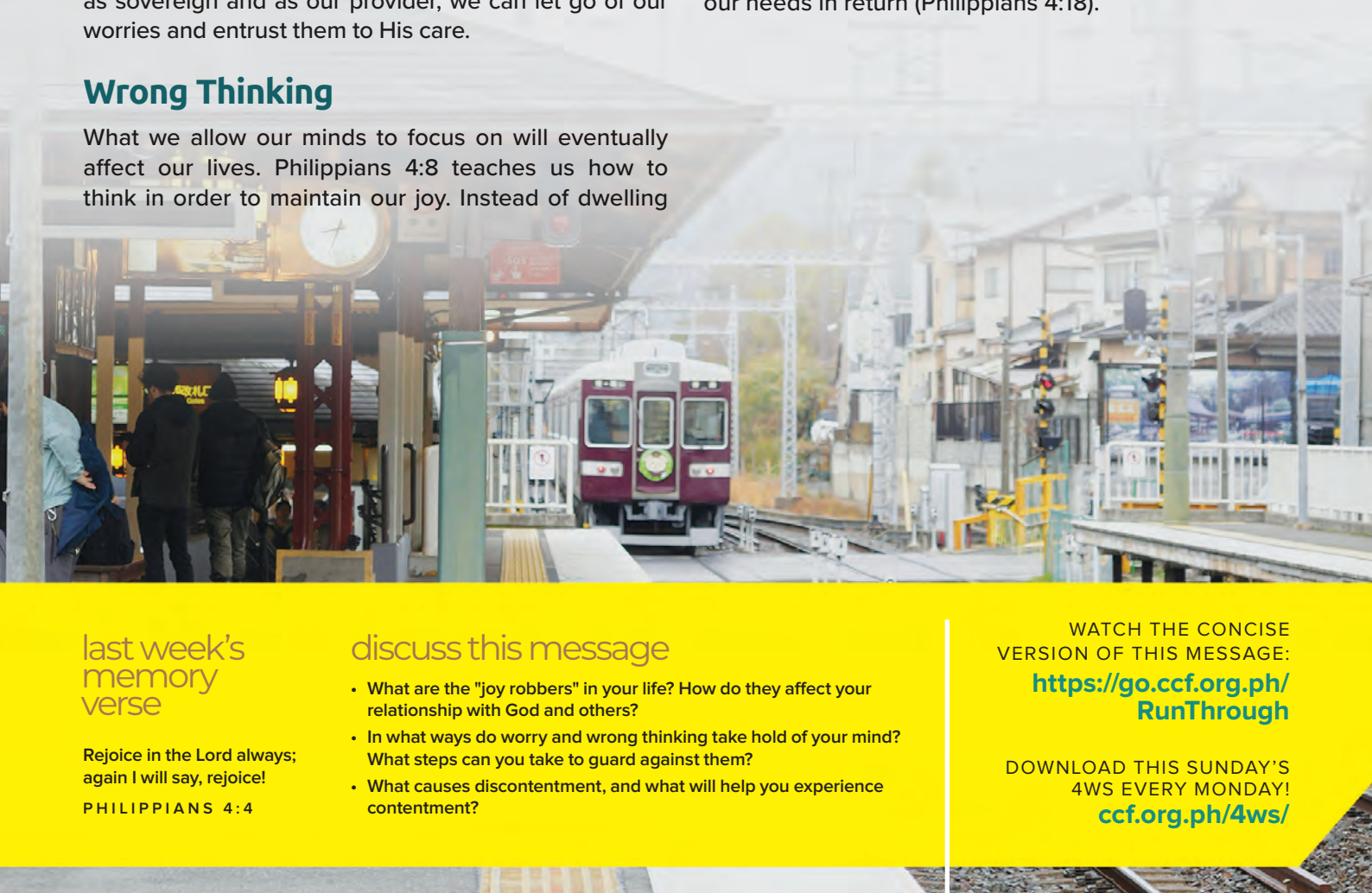
- What are the “joy robbers” in your life? How do they affect your relationship with God and others?
- In what ways do worry and wrong thinking take hold of your mind? What steps can you take to guard against them?
- What causes discontentment, and what will help you experience contentment?

WATCH THE CONCISE
VERSION OF THIS MESSAGE:

[https://go.ccf.org.ph/
RunThrough](https://go.ccf.org.ph/RunThrough)

DOWNLOAD THIS SUNDAY'S
4WS EVERY MONDAY!

ccf.org.ph/4ws/



In Jesus, you can be a new you.

See you at the Welcome Center!

step into the the community

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN



Release: Unleashing God's Abundant Blessings


Session 5: The Prayer for

the Hand of God with Gerlie Zara

March 20, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED ONLINE

  ccfwomen2women

 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry




B1G MINISTRY SINGLES

Hello, Work, Again: Seeing Work through the Perspective of the Ultimate Boss

Session 1: BRB, 1-on-1 with the CEO

March 21, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE

   B1GMinistry

NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Here I Am: Answering God's Call in Faith

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

G/F CCF Center (ages 4-12)

ZOOM: for ages 7-12; 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM

message us on Facebook to sign-up

ONLINE: Bible Lesson Video Premiere

9:00 AM at   ccfnxtgen

ACROSS FAMILY

Dad Up: Fatherhood Conference 2025

open to all men


March 22, 8:00 AM, 2/F LAI Building

REGISTRATION FEE: PHP550

Register at <https://go.ccf.org.ph/dadup>

Email across@ccf.org.ph for more details

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learn more about our faith

Be GLC-Equipped in your Discipleship Journey!

Power-Up: Leadership Training to Empower DGroup Leaders

A Series on Crucial Conversations

March 16 and 23, Sundays

11:00 AM and 2:00 PM

GLC PREMIERE

Training Orientation for Current & New Trainees

March 16, Sunday, 1:30 PM, 2/F LAI Building

GLC LEVEL 1 — Be a Disciple

Book 1: One by One, Session 1

ONSITE: March 23, Sunday

10:30 AM, Room 2A

ZOOM: March 26, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines, Session 1

ONSITE: March 23, Sunday

1:30 PM, Room 2A

ZOOM: March 26, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

GLC LEVEL 2 — Be a Discipler

Book 7: Family Life, Session 5

ONSITE: March 16, Sunday

10:30 AM, Room 3A

ZOOM: March 20, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Can't attend GLC F2F or GLC Zoom?

Use the Self-Paced Online format
or do GLC in your DGroups!

BE PART OF GLC: linktr.ee/ccfglc

YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here
for His purpose.

God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful
life with Him in the present and gain
eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God,
He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps
His covenant and His lovingkindness** to
a thousandth generation with those who
love Him and keep His commandments
– Deuteronomy 7:9*

God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us
from Him.

*Everyone has sinned and is far away from
God's saving presence. – Romans 3:23*

God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for
us to be reconciled to Him: through His
son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the
cross for our sins and be raised to life for
eternity.

*But God demonstrates His own love
toward us, in that while we were yet
sinners, Christ died for us. Much more
then, having now been justified by His
blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of
God through Him. – Romans 5:8*

*I am the way, and the truth, and the life;
no one comes to the Father but through
Me. – John 14:6*

God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we
are forgiven of our sins and saved from
eternal death.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave
His only begotten Son, that whoever
believes in Him shall not perish, but have
eternal life. – John 3:16*

*For by grace you have been saved through
faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift
of God; not as a result of works, so that no
one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9*

Would you like to place your faith in Jesus Christ today?

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I
am a sinner. I believe that You died on
the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your
help, I will turn away from my sins. Please
come into my life and be my Savior and
my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal
life. Make me the kind of new person You
want me to be. Thank You for giving me
eternal life. Amen.

God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life
when you trust in Jesus.

*And the testimony is this, that God has
given us eternal life, and this life is in His
Son. He who has the Son has the life; he
who does not have the Son of God does
not have the life. These things I have
written to you who believe in the name of
the Son of God, so that you may know that
you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13*



Services at the CCF Center




Saturdays

5:00 PM

Sundays

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN,
and 3:00 PM

Online Livestream

 ccf.org.ph  ccfmain  ccfmainTV
9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

Visit ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/ for TV and radio airing schedules.
Go to ccf.org.ph/chronicle/ to download this Chronicle.