

In the Pursuit of Happiness

As we celebrate and honor our young people on their upcoming graduations, the question comes to mind of the pursuit of happiness. Named as an unalienable right in our country's constitution, the pursuit of happiness is to be available to all people equally. What makes you happy? What do you enjoy doing most? If we were to ask five people, we would get five different answers. We all have those special activities that we enjoy and we're happiest when doing them. Have you ever noticed that we always seem to have time for our favorite activities? No matter how pressed we are for time, we will always arrange and re-arrange our schedules to work in our favorite things.

The blessed man of Psalm 1 finds *"his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night."* (Psalm 1:2) What made the psalmist happy? As Solomon advised his son in Proverbs 3, he told the young man that gaining and maintaining godly wisdom would make him happy. *"Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gains understanding."* (Proverbs 3:13)

Surprisingly, the New Testament has little to say concerning the Christian's happiness. For the young, if the pursuit of happiness is their one and only life goal, then exhaustion and disappointment will be found at the end of the road. However, the pursuit of joy, peace, and contentment, all of which comes from learning the scriptures, loving and serving God along with serving others will lead to a happy and fulfilled life.

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