**Joy in Jesus**

3 John 4  I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

Every Christian parent knows this: nothing brings the kind of joy that comes when parents see their children walking faithfully with Christ.  Why does that knowledge bring joy to a parent?  Because it means everything that a parent wants for a child is happening – progress toward maturity, deep-seated contentment and joy, and a decreasing attachment to the things of this world.

That’s what the apostle John felt when he wrote his third letter to his friend Gaius.  John confessed that nothing brought him greater joy than to hear that the Christians he had influenced were walking in the truth.  John was joyful because he knew that his spiritual charges were joyful in Christ as well.  When a believer is experiencing joy in his life, those who have influenced him are joyful as well.  If a spiritual teacher or leader is joyful, it is often because he knows those he has influenced are also joyful.  In short, walking with the Lord becomes a great source of joy and maturity in the church.

The deeper one’s walk with Christ, the deeper the joy.  Let joy become the measure of your faithfulness in Christ.  When joy ebbs, look for an area of life that is not wholly set apart for Him.

Taken from Turning Points With David Jeremiah and submitted by Wendy Rohn