

Joy in the presence of God

PSALM 16:11

14 SEPTEMBER 2025

JOY

(GK) χαρά
(*chara*)

**The feeling we experience
when we are truly loved
by someone we care about.**

A feeling of deep spiritual connection and appreciation. The good mood of the soul.

Brené Brown

Psalm 16:11 (also 21:6)

Grant me the joy of your presence.

- ▶ Rejoice *in the Lord* (32:11)
- ▶ God, my God, is the source of all my joy (43:4)
- ▶ Each morning, I will sing with joy about your unfailing love (59:16)

JOY: what we experience when we are truly loved by someone we care about.

Two roadblocks to a life of joy

- ▶ Shame (hiding our broken self from God)
- ▶ Linked to transactions (when we seek the happiness of gifts rather than the joy of presence)

JOY: what we experience when we are truly loved by someone we care about.

Shame: hiding ourselves from God

Then the LORD God called to Adam,
“Where are you?”
Adam replied, “I heard you walking in
the garden, so I hid. I was afraid
because I was naked.”

Genesis 3:9-10

God can't love what we have hidden.



JOY: what we experience when we are truly loved by someone we care about.

Finding happiness in gifts wont lead to joy



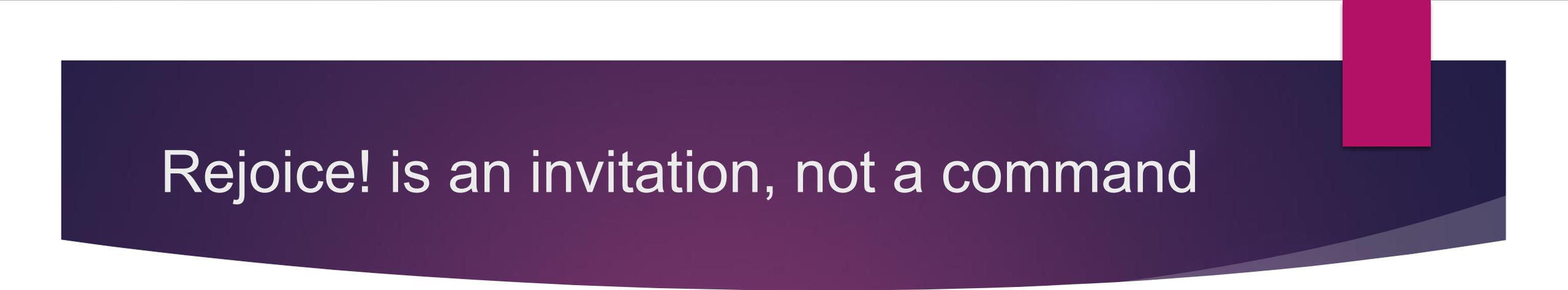
Dudley Dursley, Harry Potter's cousin and nemesis, only received 36 presents on his eleventh birthday, which led to a massive tantrum.

Don't be like Dudley.
Don't live without joy.
(Be like Dickens' "Tiny Tim.")

JOY: what we experience when we are truly loved by someone we care about.



**Positive
Upward
Spiral**



Rejoice! is an invitation, not a command

Always be full of joy in the Lord.

I say it again—rejoice!

Philippians 4:4

JOY: what we experience when we are truly loved by someone we care about.

Joy bubbles up,
when we turn our face
to the sun

The joy of the LORD
is our strength.

(Nehemiah 8:10)

