

True Joy
(September 8, 2019 by Rev. Anthony Menzel)

The title of today's message is "True Joy."

The testimonies of Sister L...

My testimony about Blue Mountain Christian Retreat...bmcrr.org...

Maria, Destiny, and I all received prophetic words there...

Based on that prophetic word, Destiny is now the Assistant Director of the Youth Group...

One of the main things that happened to me at Blue Mountain is that I got more joy...

Where I used to have peace, now I have joy as well...

Sister Carmen has been preaching about the Holy Spirit...

We know that the fruit of the Holy Spirit are

Scripture 1: Galatians 5:22-23

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ [\[a\]](#)gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Having been delivered of severe depression years ago, God has blessed me to have peace because I know that sooner or later, He will bring justice...

Friday marked 10 years since my grandmother Carmen died as the result of criminal medical negligence...

I have been able to forgive the people who tortured her in the hospital, for example, because I know that God will take care of punishing those among them who refuse to repent for what they did to my grandmother...

Scripture 2: Romans 12:19-21

¹⁹ Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but *rather* give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance *is* Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰ Therefore

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
If he is thirsty, give him a drink;
For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.”

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

I have been able to trust God to the point where I can walk in the peace that passes all understanding... Thus, even in the midst of difficult circumstances, circumstances where I don't know how God is going to help me, I have been able to have peace because I trust God...

Scripture 3: Philippians 4:6-7

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

However, I have often struggled with walking in joy, until now...

I went to Blue Mountain...

Before I went to a single service, God ministered to me in the Prayer Chapel...

The first day God woke me up at 3:30 AM, and I was obedient...

I went to pray...

The Prayer Chapel has little prayer rooms and is open 24 hours a day...

In that place, God ministered to me...

He told me that I feel lonely to read the Bible...

I don't have to be sad anymore because whenever, I feel sad, I can connect with Him by reading His Word, even if I am not in a place where I can worship the Lord Jesus in private, which is my favorite thing to do, which restores my soul at least to peace and often to joy...

I have never been as happy as I am now...

Destiny is a good kid, but she sometimes has a rough exterior...
She can be hard to reach at times...
She liked the preaching, too...

Blue Mountain is having a Youth Conference the weekend of October 25-27...

Adults can attend, too...

I would like to organize a group of people to attend...

It is possible that I can arrange translation for those who do not understand English...

Some scholarships are also possible...

We also have other testimonies today...

If time, I want to share another scripture the Lord Jesus reminded me of...

Scripture 4: Luke 10:17-20

¹⁷ Then the ^[e]seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

¹⁸ And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

¹⁹ Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

²⁰ Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but ^[f]rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

Our main success will always be just having the Lord Jesus in our lives...

Knowing that we are successful, that we have achieved our most important purpose in life should also bring us great joy...

It definitely has done so for me...