

**IS OUR HAPPINESS  
IMPORTANT TO GOD?**

**PEOPLE'S**  
*choice*

Our happiness is an indicator  
and a tool, and God uses it  
to draw us to Himself.

# Music Was My Troll



# Our Happiness Tells Us What Is Important To Us

## Matthew 6:19-21

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

# **Our Happiness Tells Us What Is Important To Us**

- **Our Happiness Tells Us How We Have Invested Our Hearts**

# Where Our Heart Is...

- When our heart is set on...
  - Music
  - Money
  - Success
  - Comfort
  - Stability

# Our Happiness Tells Us What Is Important To Us

- Our Happiness Tells Us How We Have Invested Our Hearts
- **We Treasure Lots of Things - With Varying Degrees of Personal Investment**



We Treasure Lots of Things

**PEOPLE'S**  
*choice*

We Treasure Lots of Things  
With Lots of Ups and Downs

We Treasure Lots of Things  
With Lots of Ups and Downs  
But Generally Stable

# Our Happiness Tells Us What Is Important To Us

- Our Happiness Tells Us How We Have Invested Our Hearts
- We Treasure Lots of Things - With Varying Degrees of Personal Investment
- **The Absence of Our Happiness Tells Us What Is Important To Us**



# Helpful Tool For Us

When I'm not happy...

...Where is the heart investment  
that is not paying off?

# Helpful Tool For Us

When I'm afraid...

...Where is the heart investment  
that is at risk?

# Helpful Tool For Us

When I'm angry...

...Where is the heart investment  
that being threatened or belittled?

This is the testing and refining  
of our faith



## 1 Peter 1:3-5

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

## 1 Peter 1:6-9

<sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,  
<sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—  
more precious than gold that perishes though it is  
tested by fire—may be found to result in praise  
and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus  
Christ. <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love  
him. Though you do not now see him, you believe  
in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and  
filled with glory, <sup>9</sup> obtaining the outcome of your  
faith, the salvation of your souls.

## Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

<sup>3</sup> Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,

<sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the

Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

## James 1:2-5

<sup>2</sup> Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

<sup>4</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. <sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.



# Our Happiness Tells Us What Is Important To Us

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**Our Happiness Tells God What Is  
Important To Us**

# The Complexity of Happiness

- Can be a testimony to God's goodness!

# The Complexity of Happiness

- Can be a testimony to God's goodness!
- Can also be an unhealthy investment in the things that are going well

# The Complexity of Happiness

- Can be a commitment to rejoice in all circumstances!



# The Complexity of Happiness

- Can be a commitment to rejoice in all circumstances!
- Can also be an unhealthy avoidance of painful circumstances

# Our Happiness Tells God What Is Important To Us

- God Sees Our Hearts

# God Sees Our Hearts

- Samuel Choosing A King – 1 Samuel 16:7
- The Hypocrisy of the Pharisees – Mt.15:8
- The Disciples' Quarreling – Lk. 9:47

# Our Happiness Tells God What Is Important To Us

- God Sees Our Hearts
- Our Hearts are Important to God

# Our Hearts Are Important To God

- Love the Lord Your God...
  - Treasure Him above everything else
  - Invest your heart in ways that bring Him glory
  - He will never disappoint



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**Our Happiness is Important to God**

# Our Happiness is Important

- It tells us what is important to us
- It tells God what is important to us

# Our Happiness is Important

- It tells us what is important to us
- It tells God what is important to us
- Because God loves us -  
He wants us to be lastingly, enduringly,  
steadfastly, eternally Happy

God has a monopoly  
on lasting happiness

**PEOPLE'S**  
*choice*



# Our Happiness is Important

- God knows our hearts...
- He knows what will make us happy – and what will not
- He knows what will do damage, and what will build us up
- He knows what is ephemeral, and what is eternal
- He knows what is deceptive, and what is true

# Our Happiness is Important

- He knows who we can count on, and who will let us down
- When He offers Himself – There is nothing, no one better. He is offering the absolute best, most satisfying, most eternally trustworthy thing in the universe.

# What Do We Do?

- We can't simply decide to love something less
- We can invest more of our head and our heart in the One who can deliver lasting happiness

# What Do We Do?

- We can't simply decide to love something less
- We can invest more of our head and our heart in the One who can deliver lasting happiness
- We can't always tell what is the wisest investment of our hearts
- We can ask God for wisdom