Children's Message
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Joy vs Happiness

Good morning, how's everybody doing this morning? You know, pastors talking about the fruits of the Spirit. Today he's going to talk about joy. Do you know what joy is? It's kind of weird. Sometimes you might think joy is a little bit like happiness. And we're going to be you know, happy because we have something, but they're a little bit different. Because happiness is something that we get sometimes from things or activities. Maybe we're going to go to Disneyland and we're going to see Mickey and Minnie and Goofy and the whole gang, or we're going to go to Knott's Berry Farm and see Snoopy and Charlie Brown and their whole gang or maybe we're going to go to Magic Mountain Six Flags and ride some roller coasters or some other rides and have a good time or maybe do a waterpark. And those things can make us happy and bring some happiness and maybe want to play some video games. We like video games. And playing games and, and then doing those kinds of things. And sometimes that can make us have a little bit of happiness. Sometimes maybe doing something like riding our bikes hanging out with our friends sometimes or maybe riding a skateboard. So those would be learning to ride skateboards are trying to do some new tricks on our skateboards. And those things can make us happy and be enjoyable. Sometimes it's maybe just playing with our friends, we like to go outside, play with our friends, hang out, do some things. Maybe you play soccer together or something. And those things are fun and enjoyable and can bring some happiness. Maybe we like going to the beach. It's always fun to go to the beach to play in the sand and the surf build sand castles and maybe sometimes just stay in the evening and get a fire pit and have a fire and roast marshmallows and make s'mores. And those things are great and fun as well. Maybe it's our toys, we think our toys will bring us happiness, and we have a toys and we get more and more toys and more toys. And someday maybe we have too many toys. There's this big mountain of toys. And they can bring us happiness. Maybe sometimes even just hanging out with our parents, go on someplace with them. Like we said, maybe go to the beach with them. Or maybe they're reading us a story or something, at bedtime. And those things can bring happiness and can be fun playing game with them.

And all those things are good, nothing wrong with any of those things. And they can make us happy and they can bring some moments into our lives and help us create good memories and things. But that's not really Joy. Joy's a little bit different. It's lasting and how do you get that? Well The Bible says that when the Holy Spirit lives in us, we will have joy. That means when God is inside of us, we have Jesus in our hearts will have everlasting joy. And we call that one of the fruits of the Spirit. It's how we can see God's living in us by what we produce, just like you can look at a tree and you can tell if it's an apple tree because apples grow on it, or maybe lemons or oranges grow on it. And so you know what kind of tree it is, you can tell by the fruit that's on the tree. And sometimes we can tell we have Jesus in our lives, and God in our hearts by what we produce, and we produce joy. It can help us have this everlasting joy and some of the ways we do that is when we help each other. Sometimes we can help one another maybe one playing or you could help your brother or sister or maybe help mom and dad with some chores around the house, maybe we forgive each other. There can be times when we get into a little scuffle with our brothers or sisters, and we forgive one another and we're kind, we love one another. We take care of

each other, and we put love on each other. Maybe Mercy is another word you've heard us. And all these things show that we have joy in our hearts, and they will bring us a joy that lasts when we do things. It won't just be momentary. If you go to Disneyland, or you play video games, you may be happy for a minute, but it doesn't last, it's gone. And as much as we might think it would be fun to go to Disneyland every day. I'm not so sure that would really be an everlasting happiness. We get tired of going to Disneyland eventually. And so look for ways to bring joy into the world. To be kind, to be loving, to be merciful to be forgiving. These are the things that will produce joy in our lives. Let's pray real quick. Heavenly Father, thank you so much for these children, Lord, we're grateful that we have them in our lives. Help them to understand the Lord that having you in our life is a way to have joy. Help them to find that joy, Lord, be with us. Keep us safe. Bring us back again. In Jesus name. Amen.