

In case you do not know, our theme for the year as given by God is \*REJOICING\*

\*THIS IS OUR YEAR OF REJOICING!\*

I trust that for as many of us that are connected to Voice Of Worth, \*we will all rejoice indeed!\*

Because I want us to take time to understand Rejoicing, we will be taking it scoop after scoop, no rushing.

\*THE MEANING\*

\_Rejoice\_ means to feel or show great joy or delight!

Please note this,

\_Rejoicing is as much an attitude as an action.\_

\_Rejoicing works both an attack means as well as a defence means.\_

We'll delve into it more later.

New International Version

\*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!\*

New Living Translation

\*Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again-- rejoice\*

Phillipians 4:4

To rejoice means \_to be constantly thrilled, to take pleasure and experience excitement.\_

\_Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you your heart's desires\_ Psalm 37:4

Let's dwell on this scripture for today.

n secret we need to tap into this year.

**\*Find thrill in God!\***

Find your excitement in the things of the Lord.

No wonder scriptures say "Rejoice in the LORD always..."

If it is Boo that gives you thrill, it can't satisfy!

If it is the size of your bank account that is giving you excitement, it will finish one day! It doesn't satisfy.

If it's the beautiful face that stares back at you from the mirror that you get your pleasure from, change.

In fact, even if it's the church activities and running up and down that gives you your thrill, refocus.

If it's the job, or career or anything, the joy can't last!

**\*The centre of your thrill this year should be the Lord.\***

Let God give you joy!

Find joy in the things of God!

**\*How?\***

One major way is **\*MEDITATION\***

MEDITATION involves **\*thinking and speaking\***!

The day I came in contact with the Psalm 37:4 scripture, I was at a camp, and as I started

reciting it over and over, a thrill started filling my heart, I continued thinking about it..and declaring that my thrill is in God. I continued till I broke out in a depth of joy from the depths of me!!!

Does it mean there are not things you want or should be worried about, no.

\*It only means you are choosing to allow that thing play second place to the Lord\*, and guess what , as scripture says, when you delight yourself in the Lord, \*God will grant you your heart desire.\*

What happens is \*as you delight in Him in meditation, confession and thoughtful worship\*, you'll discover that \_His thought begin to take over your thoughts and He begins to pour his thoughts into yours, and clarity begins to come.\_

Imagine \*thinking as God thinks\*

What joy!

What certainty!!

You can't go wrong!!!

For someone here, you need to stop giving God \*specifics for BOO\*.

Start delighting in God.

Pay attention to what He wants and He will show you!!!

Note the sequence.

It is delight first, then you have heart desires.

We want to receive our heart desires before we rejoice in the Lord..that's not the way!

Don't reverse the plan.

Rejoice then receive!

Another way is \*Testimonies\*

When something confronts you, remember \*God has come through for you before and He can do it again!\*

If he did it before

He can do it again

Same God right now

Same God back then

\_ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. \_ \*Hebrews 13:8\*

That was the major weapon David used.

He rejoiced in the God of his salvation. The God that had saved him from the bear and the lion...

He \*rejoiced\* in what has been done...and armed with that he \*received\* victory over Mr Goliath!

\*As you go through this year, let testimonies constantly fill your mouth.\*

For someone here, next time your parents start complaining, \*remind them of how God has come through in the past and break out in praise!\*

Another way to rejoice is \*PRAISE\*

Dance in praise!

Sing in praise!

Chant in praise.

Shout in praise!

Give in praise!

Just praise!!!

From time to time, after I exhaust what to say to praise, I grab my bible and flip to psalms and just praise God with the psalms directly from the bible!!

Just praise!!!

When the devil thinks he has you in a corner, put on your dancing shoes, plug your ears, jam those praise songs and dance to the Lord in praise!

Perfect recipe to confuse the guy!!

Psalm 9. 2.

I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.

Psalm 34. 1.

I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth

I particularly like this one

Psalm 44. 8.

In God we \*boast\* all the day long, and praise thy name for ever. Selah.

Rejoicing in the Lord is **BOASTING IN THE LORD.**

**BOAST IN THE LORD TO THE LORD!!!**

Let's take one more and we call it a night..

\*Rejoicing as a lifestyle\* (attitude)

Paul, who wrote the scripture to the Phillipians was a man that was constantly moving from one jail to another, he was constantly in one shipwreck or being sneaked out from one place or the other...Yet he was saying 'Rejoice!'

When rejoicing becomes an attitude for you, when it becomes a lifestyle for you, \*your joy is not dependent on the situation.\*

Whether it's good, bad, ugly, nice, fine..whatever, \*Ensure your joy is intact!\*

Finally, I end with this..

Rejoice Ladies, Rejoice in the LORD, ALWAYS.

\*I will say it again, Rejoice!\*