

God Never Said That Series  
“God wants you Happy”

*May all who are godly be happy...*

Psalm 97:12a (NLT)

## The Theology of Happiness

**Whatever makes me happy must be right.  
Whatever makes me unhappy must be wrong.**

**Discomfort, delay, risk, suffering, inconvenience  
and obstacles can't be God's will.**

**Without knowing it, I begin to worship the false  
gods of comfort, money, pleasure, and things.**

*Enjoy prosperity while you can,  
but when hard times strike, realize that both come from God.  
Remember that nothing is certain in this life.*  
Ecclesiastes 7:14 (NLT)

**God does not exist to serve us,  
we exist to serve Him.**

**God doesn't want you happy:**

**When it causes you to do something  
wrong or unwise.**

*There is a path before each person that seems right,  
but it ends in death.*  
Proverbs 16:25 (NLT)

*But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;*  
1 Peter 1:15 (NIV)

**When it is only based on the things of  
this world.**

**Better possessions + peaceful circumstances +  
thrilling experiences + the right relationships +  
the perfect appearance = happiness.**

*Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.*

1 John 2:15-17 (NLT)

**God wants you to be blessed.**

*“God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him,  
for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.  
God blesses those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.  
God blesses those who are humble,  
for they will inherit the whole earth.  
God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice,  
for they will be satisfied.  
God blesses those who are merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.  
God blesses those whose hearts are pure,  
for they will see God.  
God blesses those who work for peace,  
for they will be called the children of God.  
God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right,  
for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.  
“God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.*

Matthew 5:3-12 (NLT)

*Take delight in the Lord,  
and he will give you your heart's desires.*

Psalm 37:4 (NLT)

## **SO WHAT?**

*May all who are godly be happy in the LORD and praise his holy name.*

Psalm 97:12 (NLT)

## **Growth Group Questions**

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. What are some things that just plain make you happy?
2. What things does our culture say you need to be happy?
3. Re-read Proverbs 16:25. Tell of a time you did something ~~sinful~~ wrong, or ~~stupid~~ unwise in pursuit of happiness. Are you currently being tempted to do something wrong or unwise?
4. Re-read 1 John 2:15-17. What are some of the false Gods in your life? (stuff, perfection, having your way, control, security, pleasure, etc.)
5. Re-read Matthew 5:3-12. What do you really think it means to be blessed after reading these verses?
6. Are you counting on something in the future like a job, spouse, house, or education to make your life better? What step can you take this week to put your hope in Christ instead?
7. Choose 1-2 things you have been putting in front of God, can you skip them for one week and replace them with time with God? How?