# Life is too short to be miserable!

# AND OTHER WRITINGS

# **True happiness comes** from making others happy.

Compiled from the writings of Gary Britton

# Be Bold. Be Happy!



# True happiness comes from making others happy.

Gary Britton



A Sponsors of Hope Publication

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"In His presence is fullness of joy." (Psalms 16:11)

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# Introduction

### HAPPINESS.

Everyone wants to be happy, yet happiness seems to be hard to find for many.

People buy things. They fill their lives with non stop activities and noise. They surround themselves with people, yet they feel empty and lonely.

"Be Bold. Be Happy!" is a compilation of thoughts that address the question of why in today's modern internet age, happiness is so elusive.

And more importantly ... How to find it!

### **BE BOLD. BE HAPPY!**

Some people are never happy, because they think things will make them happy. And they never have enough!

Some think that being with a particular person will bring them happiness.

And others place happiness in the future, as some future event or destination, one that is always somehow unattainable.

But happiness comes when you break free from that driving spirit of busyness and thinking you have to get somewhere, do something, or have something to be happy.

And it all begins with counting your blessings!

"I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content." (Philippians 4:11)

### **A HAPPIER LIFE**

We were all thrust into this world. And in different places and in different ways we are each just trying to figure things out!

We really need to start being kinder to each other, flow more and accept more. And learn to slow down, enjoy life, and enjoy each other.

You want to change the world? I can't think of a better way! If everyone caught on to this, and just started to live in a nicer way, all kinds of things would flow better.

Life for all would be better, happier!

### **HOW WAS YOUR DAY?**

Every day is a new day! Every day when we wake up we are given another chance to be happy, or not. Whether we have a "good day" or not, depends on our decision to see the good and possibilities before us.

We have to create any excitement in our lives.

We either sit around waiting for fun or stimulating things to happen, or we find things to do, see opportunities, or create them in the fabric of our day!

Like someone once said: "Don't wait for things to happen, make them happen!" Whether you have a boring life or not, depends on YOU!

### **YOUR CHOICE**

Negativity is a killer. Negativity gets you nowhere. Negativity will bring you down, reduce you to nothing, and ultimately defeat you.

Negativity is contagious, and you must avoid it like a plague.

But being positive has the opposite effect on you! A positive attitude will build you up.

Being positive is a choice that will attract life and love and overcoming into your world!

Positive? or negative? What's it gonna be? The choice is yours!

"Our spirits are contagious. We are either lifting up or beating down. There is no middle ground."

### **BORING OR FUN?**

You are *boring* if... You walk around with a long face. You are closed to new ideas. You get easily offended. You talk continually about your past and are into yourself.

You are *fun* if...You show an interest in people.You take things in stride.You laugh at yourself.You live in the present with hope for the future.

Which are you?

"Some people cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go!"

### SIMPLE!

If you're spending more time talking about the problem than you spend talking about the solution, you're probably complaining.

If you talk more about the faults of others and their mistakes, you're probably a pretty unhappy person.

Happiness comes from being positive, constructive, and loving.

It's as simple as that!

### **DON'T WORRY**

If you try to please everyone, you will fail. There is no way you can please everyone, because there will always be someone who disagrees, misinterprets or finds fault.

It's ridiculous how apologetic some people have become. They grovel and apologize just because a few whine or complain; when they have done nothing wrong!

Just let your words and actions be motivated by kindness and don't worry about what people say or think.

Let God be the judge!

### IF I HAD...

Many people think if they had a mate they would be happy. Or if they had a better job they would be happy.

Or if they had a child, lived somewhere else, had more money, a bigger house, or a better education, or if they didn't have so many problems they would be happier.

People find all kinds of excuses to not be happy.

Happiness doesn't depend on things or circumstances. Happiness is a choice. There's no excuse.

If you want to be happy, BE!

### **HOW TO BE HAPPY**

Everyone wants to be happy. People say they want to be happy, yet so many are unhappy. Why is this? That's not an easy question to answer.

But I have found that happiness doesn't really depend on things, or on other people, but rather it is a state of mind.

My formula is simple: I get happy... by NOT thinking of the things that make me unhappy!

### **REAL THINGS!**

The world is getting sadder and sadder. That's because people focus on all kinds of things that bring unhappiness. They complain, instead of being grateful. They think about themselves, instead of others. They talk too much, and listen too little. They take themselves so seriously to the point where it's almost like they're afraid of being happy.

Negativity attracts counterproductive things in our lives. Having the mind of Christ attracts positive and uplifting things. And it all begins with the thoughts we choose to entertain.

Thoughts are REAL things!

"Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." (Luke 6:45)

### **HOW TO BE MISERABLE**

Life for many has become about getting more things. They spend their days trying to get more.

But material things, and the pleasure they afford are fleeting. Instant gratification is gone... in an instant, and then you are left empty.

You can have all the money in the world, but if you don't have peace in your heart and someone to share it with, you will be miserable.

Happiness doesn't come from keeping it all for yourself...

But by sharing!

### ADRENALINE

People roam this Earth looking. They are restless... bored. They are always seeking: seeking excitement, seeking thrills, seeking anything other than boring.

Then they find a mate, but the only thing that changes is that now there are two of them seeking, restless. And it's not only young people who do this. People of all ages get caught up in this vortex of activity.

We miss out on so much in life by never being satisfied. We short change ourselves as well as others with all of this nonstop adrenaline. This driving, nonstop spirit is not of God.

May God help us find peace and contentment right where we are.

### WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER

As long as we continue to have a "them or us" attitude we will never be happy.

WE need to emphasize more the things that we have in COMMON because we're all in this together!

### **CHANGE STARTS WITH YOU**

We should ALL be on a journey of self improvement. Bookstores have entire sections devoted to this subject, so a lot of people are reading them. But the majority of us aren't.

We can whine and complain all we want, and we can see ourselves as *victims*, but what does that accomplish. Doing nothing gets us nowhere. Only a proactive attitude can bring about change. But that change must first come from within.

Your circumstances don't determine where you can go. They merely determine where you start. You do have the power to change the world: YOUR world, your family and friends, the world you live in. But you are going to have to start with yourself.

Ask God to give you His love for those around you. And ask Him to show you the areas YOU need to change in.

You'll be a lot happier!

### **JUST IMAGINE**

Imagine... If people, instead of gossiping, spent that energy encouraging each other, how much happier we would all be.

Imagine... If people, instead of being greedy, were generous and helped each other, what a better life we would all have.

Imagine... If people, instead of criticizing each other prayed for each other, what a better world it would be.

Just imagine.

### GOSSIP

Have you watched the news lately? The majority of what they call news is just gossip! News has become online versions of cheap tabloid newspapers.

They report on celebrity gossip, political feuding and anything else scandalous, juicy or salacious. They then blow everything completely out of proportion!

Gossip is a dead end street. It takes a negative toll on your spirit.

The Bible says we should focus on the good and encourage one another...

With positive things!

"Think on things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely." (Philippians 4:8)

### **TODAY IS THE DAY**

We should all appreciate this life we have while we're living it.

There are so many things we will look back on and realize how good we had it.

So what keeps us from enjoying life now? What keeps us from being grateful today?

Our spirit of busyness keeps us down. Our negative mindsets keep us from enjoying life.

Today is the day we were waiting for!

Let's be grateful for what we have right now. Let's be grateful that we don't have it worse. Let's be grateful for our many, many blessings.

And enjoy life and the many blessings that we have... today!

### LONELINESS

A lot of people are lonely nowadays. People get online looking for love, looking for companionship. Loneliness is killing people.

But we have found there is a really simple cure for loneliness. And that is to get out of yourself and into others.

When we start thinking of others it often makes our own problems seem small. When we get busy trying to help someone else, our own problems just disappear!

We all need each other. And God blesses us when we reach out to others! It really is that simple.

### A BACKWARDS WORLD

We need to stop apologizing just because someone doesn't like something.

Sin, in God's eyes is basically when we do something that is unloving, because LOVE is the yardstick by which we should guide our lives.

If we say something with good intentions, but someone finds fault, we don't have to apologize as if we had done something wrong. The problem isn't with us. The problem is with them!

That's how God sees things. How backwards the world is becoming.

Better stay close to Him!

"If our heart condemns us not, then confidence have we before God." (1 John 3:21)

### **STRIVE TO BE HAPPY**

Happiness is a funny thing. It's so easy at times. Yet at others it's hard.

When we let go of our worries and cares we can't help but be happy. If we only live in the future, we can't help but be sad. And dwelling on the past will keep us on a bummer.

But living in the present and thinking of others is a sure thing to make us glad.

Happiness attracts money, good health, and more happiness. And a sure fire way to attract the opposite sex is to be happy!

We don't have a sad God.

We have a happy God who wants us to be happy!

### **SMELL THE ROSES**

So many people live for tomorrow. They are waiting for that raise. They are waiting for their kids to graduate. They are waiting to retire.

Their lives pass them by waiting for some future event until they find themselves at the end of their lives. Many come to the end, without ever having lived. It's so sad.

There is nothing wrong with being busy. Just so long as you take time... To smell the roses!

### LET LIVE!

We live in a repressive society. People are getting so uptight. People are growing more and more fearful, more and more bound.

We seem to be forgetting to enjoy the ride that is life. We are only short changing ourselves.

We all need to stop imposing our beliefs on each other. We need to learn to live, and simply... LET LIVE!

# THE ROAD TO GOD'S BLESSINGS

We all have so many things to be grateful for, and God is so good to those who let Him and His love rule in their lives. How could there ever be room for any of us to complain?

If we are not grateful for what God has already given us, He's sure not going to feel like giving us much more. And if we murmur and complain long enough, He may even take away the blessings we already have. Boy, then we'll have something to whine about!

The Bible says, "In EVERYTHING give thanks."

The surest way to keep God's blessings flowing is by having a grateful attitude, counting our blessings, and thanking God continually for them.

Remember, "Keep your eyes on the donut and not on the hole!"

"Oh magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name forever." (Psalms 34:3)

# HOLD YOUR COURSE

There is a saying: "A friend doesn't need an excuse, and an enemy isn't going to believe it anyway."

Some people are predisposed to find fault. No matter what you do, they will always see something wrong with what you are doing, and criticize. We should not be catering to these sad individuals.

Just because some people see negativity doesn't mean we should change course and try to accommodate them. That's what people are doing nowadays, and it is wrong!

Every great man has had to overcome criticism to reach his goal. Every great achievement has been met with obstacles.

Don't let losers deter you. Ignore them. Keep doing good and moving forward. Just hold your course!

### NOT THE ONLY ONE

Have you noticed how depressing the news is? If we believed half of what they tell us on TV we would all want to give up, jump off the nearest cliff, or live like a hermit in a cave!

But in spite of all of their negativity, exaggerated news stories, and sensationalism it is still a beautiful world. It just seems like they don't want us to know about it.

So if you sometimes feel all alone, if you feel like all of your loving efforts are in vain...

Remember, there are a LOT of other people doing great and wonderful things for the world.

Cheer up.

You are NOT the only one!

# WHAT ARE YOU INTO?

Most people today are so into themselves. Their whole world revolves around them. No wonder they are unhappy. No wonder they are so depressed.

This is the culture we are living in. And it is only made worse by television, movies, music, and the Internet. It's not surprising that loneliness abounds.

Because true happiness comes not in living selfishly, but in thinking of others. And people are what bring meaning and purpose to life.

Are you lonely? Look for ways to bring joy into other people's lives.

Are you depressed? Discover what joys can be had by putting others' needs above your own.

GIVE love, and you'll receive love!

"Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over shall men give back to you. For with the same measure that you give, it shall be given back to you again." (Luke 6:38)

# **GOD'S BLESSINGS**

People sure complain a lot these days.

You read about them in the news. You see them on television.

They complain about the government. They complain about the system. They complain about other people.

And some people even complain about things that happened hundreds of years ago. things that our forefathers did, as if we should somehow be held responsible for them today. How dumb is that!

Complaining is contagious. Negative people are self destructing.

There is only one way to be happy in this world: Be grateful for all the good in your life. And THANK GOD for your blessings!

"In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

# **HAPPY SOULS**

Are you a happy soul? Or are you a sourpuss?

Do you go through your day with a smile? Or do you trudge through it with a frown?

People with positive outlooks are not only more successful: They also live longer!

So, unless you have a death wish, start looking on the positive, be grateful for what you have, start enjoying life, and SMILE more!

You will not only have more fun...

But you will also be more fun to be around!

# FLOW MORE, ENJOY MORE

People talk everything to death these days. They don't know how to listen.

People think everything to death these days. Their heads get in their way.

People worry themselves to death these days. Fear controls them.

No wonder so many are miserable.

Sometimes it's smarter to not overly complicate things. If you flow more... you enjoy more.

#### **HOW MUCH WE MISS**

We miss opportunities. We find someone uninteresting before taking time to know them. We don't try something new because we're sure we won't like it. We miss out on so much in life. So many lost opportunities.

We get in a hurry. We want everything right now. But it takes time to learn and to discover.

We become our own worst enemies. Enemies to change. Enemies to growth. Enemies to our own happiness. But we don't have to miss out on good things God has for us.

Let's welcome the fun things God sends our way.

"I have showed you new things, even hidden things, and you did not know them." (Isaiah 48:6)

### THE VOCIFERATION PLAGUE

One of the main problems we have in the world today is people who spend their time being very vocal about every little thing they don't like. Why are we giving them so much attention?

These vociferators will never be satisfied until the world and everything in it is to their liking. Until everyone and everything is like they think it should be, and that of course is never going to happen.

Often these people criticize others who are doing something, while they themselves are doing nothing, other than criticizing!

They are a leading cause of the problem. And they don't even see it.

We need to ignore them and stop letting them call the shots and dictate how we all should live and think.

"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good and edifying that it may minister grace unto the hearers." (Ephesians 4:29)

### THE HAPPINESS FORMULA

We are each here navigating the seas of life. We all have good times and we all have bad times.

How we react to things and the decisions we make along the way play a large part in our individual mental and spiritual growth. These are common denominators we all seem to share.

We all have to find some "formula" that works for us. We each have to find a formula that we feel reasonably comfortable with.

This largely determines our happiness!

# **OUR REAL SIN**

We have so much to be grateful for, yet so many people complain too much. They get up in arms about the silliest things. Their discontent is growing in epic proportions.

Violence is on the rise. Looting and brazen theft are rampant. And people talk about revolution! They want to bring about a civil war they say. They have all kinds of BS reasons to do so.

Well, at this rate they are going to succeed in bringing everything down. They will succeed big time in us losing all of our blessings.

Our biggest sin is: Not being GRATEFUL for our many blessings. And if we lose them we will have no one to blame, but ourselves!

### THE SEARCH

People are tired of "fake". They are searching for "real". Deep down inside people sense something is fundamentally wrong.

They know that something is wrong with man living in a world surrounded by greed, envy and loneliness. Because God has put it in man's heart to know there is more to life.

Man will never be happy with a heavy heart.

Man will never be fully satisfied until he returns to a simple life of living in harmony with his neighbor, and being at peace with God living His only law of LOVE.

# LET BEAUTY FLOW

We are getting nowhere thinking that we can *make* others treat us right.

We can't make people *be good* and kind and considerate of others.

What we CAN do, is, at an individual level and on a one on one basis be engaging, be interesting. In short, be LIKABLE.

It's really easy. When we are likable, people like us. When people like each other, neither complains about the other one. They don't have time for such things. They are having too much FUN!

Stop trying to make others be the way you think they should be. Let beauty flow.

And EVERYONE will be HAPPIER!

### THIN LINES, & THIN SKINNED!

There are so many thin lines in the world today. And we have to walk carefully to navigate them all. You have to walk a thin line when it comes to everything you say and everything you do.

And what seems to be a thin line to you, may not be the same to someone else. You may inadvertently cross a line that you didn't even realize was there!

These thin lines are never well defined. They are not always so black and white. Perceptions differ. Beliefs are defined by upbringing and past experiences. And what seems perfectly acceptable to one person may not be to another.

It's getting increasingly harder to please everyone, and there are some people you can never please.

One thing is certain: All of these thin lines are not making anyone happier. They are just making everyone more miserable.

We need to stop being so THIN SKINNED!

"Every man ought not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think." (Romans 12:3)

### RELIEF

"I am tired, tired of the struggle."

"Why is life so hard?"

"Life at times just seems like an endless conflict."

Such are the feelings of many nowadays.

Relief comes when we stop trying to control things. Peace comes when we surrender our plans, our ideas, and realize that others have theirs.

Happiness comes when we flow with life, don't take ourselves too seriously... and laugh more!

# A HAPPY GOD

People equate being religious with being serious. A lot of people portray God as sober, sullen and somber. But nothing could be further from the truth.

God isn't a stern judge just waiting to knock us down at every turn. God is the spirit of life and love, and He above all wants us to be happy!

Happiness and joy are the signs of true spirituality. Hope, love and gratefulness are the fruits of living in God's presence.

"Happy is the people whose God is the Lord." (Psalms 144:15)

# **TENDER HEARTS**

"I'm tough." "I take no crap from nobody."

This is the ever growing attitude of so many today. And it's killing them! It's turning people into deserts, hard, barren and dry. Fruitless. Lonely.

A compassionate spirit attracts everything worthwhile in life.

And a tender heart will bring us all the things we desire.

### FORGET ABOUT GETTING EVEN

People talk about how they have been mistreated. They say they want to "settle the score". Some people really get obsessed with their sense of being treated unfairly. But that doesn't make them anything special.

Life has been unfair to us all at times. Many times in fact. What sets us apart is how we deal with it. You can spend your days consumed with bitterness. You can try to get even. You can even do something stupid in the false belief that it will make you feel better.

Or, you can give it up to the Lord, put it in His hands and just move on with your life. Forget about getting even. You will be a lot HAPPIER!

# **ARE YOU BORED?**

Are you bored with your life? Are you bored with the people and things around you?

Life isn't easy, especially when there is little change and you find yourself stuck in a never ending routine that defines your days.

The only solution is to cry out to the Lord for His help. The only solution is to cry out to Him to to show you the way out of your monotony.

Looking down will keep you on a bummer. It will kill you. Looking up and connecting with God will open a world of possibilities.

Look up... and live!

#### **EVERY TIME**

Each and every time we get impatient, we become more frustrated. Each and every time we get mad, we become more bitter. Each and every time we are unforgiving, we become smaller.

We are not becoming a better people, but an unpleasant, sad and cynical people. We are becoming our worst enemies. But we are also the only ones that can change things and forge a better future for ourselves.

Each and every time we look on the good, each and every time we are loving, each and every time we are caring, giving, forgiving... we become those things. Happiness is a choice. "Do unto others."

And our life depends on what WE make of it!

# **AIRPORT JOY**

One of the most fun things is to pick up a loved one at the airport.

You sit there waiting. You look at the list of arriving flights, you look to see if your flight is on time, been cancelled or whatever. Then you watch the line of passengers coming out of the restricted area. Your anticipation builds.

Then, after what seems like a lot longer than it really is, you spot *them* scanning the crowd for *you*! Your eyes make contact, and it is utter joy as your smiles announce your mutual contentment in being soon reunited!

Oh, the simple pleasures in life that mean so much. The simple things that make you realize the real values and what life is all about!

How sweet it is to know you are loved, and how good it is to have someone to love!

#### "I WOULD RATHER BE SOMEWHERE ELSE"

People everywhere these days have their noses in their cell phones.

No matter who they are or where they are, at home or out with family or friends, they are so into their electronic devices!

What they are saying is, "I would rather be somewhere else." They can be with loved ones, and they *ignore* them! They would rather be somewhere else!

You see them in the mall, in a park, or on the beach with their phones! Parents ignoring their children, children in their own private little make believe world, hypnotized by their phones!

People the world over have been lulled into make believe worlds of their own creation where

they feel safe, a place where they can pretend all is well.

People feed off of the never ending stream of celebrity gossip pretending to "BE someone else"!

The world is being sucked into an endless void of continually being unhappy where they are, and with who they are. This only leads to a state of feeling increasingly unsatisfied. Always wanting more, but never having it. Always wanting to *be* somewhere else, but never getting there.

Only YOU can break the habit.

### **NEWNESS OF LIFE**

Many people are living in the past. They tell you story after story about things that happened years ago. They even tell the same stories over and over again.

The past is gone. Living in the past not only makes you feel older, but it robs you of the opportunities of today.

There's a lot going on in the present, and the way to stay young is to keep finding new things to do.

Instead of turning over the leaves of past winters, look for new signs of life in the world around you. Look for something new and inspiring that will bring newness into YOUR life!

"Forsake the foolish and live, and go in the way of wisdom." (Proverbs 9:6)

It's not wise to engage in gossip.

Some people spend their lives talking about others, complaining about their mate, child, friend, neighbor, or loved one.

If you listen to them and try to get involved, you will be the only one to lose. You may even end up losing a friend.

The only way you can win is to not take sides. Don't even listen to gossip in the first place.

Change the subject. Think of something urgent you have to do, and walk away. Do this consistently. Let it be known that you are not interested in criticizing others.

People will respect you more. They'll know that you will never be talking about THEM behind their backs.

As Christians, we should lift people up in prayer. We should PRAY specifically for them. Enough said!

"In the multitude of words there lacketh not sin. But he that closeth his lips is wise." (Proverbs 10:19)

### WE CAN'T UNDO

Some people are seeking justice for things done years ago. Some are holding on to grudges and the offenses of past generations.

Well, we can't undo the past.

We can't undo past wrongs, past injuries and past injustices. And dwelling on the past will ultimately get us nowhere. It hurts us more than anyone else.

We can't undo things done, words spoken, or opportunities lost. But we *can* forge a better future for ourselves, for our children and for all those around us.

A positive future depends on looking forward and being positive NOW!

# **STAYING POSITIVE**

No matter how much we try to understand the world today, we will never be able to figure it all out, as there are so many problems. Life has gotten so complex that it is mind boggling.

None of us really know what's "right". We don't know "who" is right. But we know what *we* should do with our time here on this earth. And that is, to be a blessing, as much as possible, to as many as possible.

I find happiness in staying busy doing something positive, and not dwelling on all of the negative things going on in the world today.

It works for me!

### **BLAH BLAH BLAH**

Talk is cheap. And the cheapest talk of all is talking about others. Gossip.

Gossip comes from idle people and empty minds: losers.

Great souls simply don't have time for gossip. They dwell on the positive. They are busy doing better things, more productive things. They are winners.

Sooner or later we reap what we sow. What goes around comes around.

We don't waste time on gossip!

### **BEING YOURSELF**

People are funny. In today's world when you first meet someone, you often have to reassure them that what you believe, or what you are doing, is not any number of things that they fear, or don't like, or feel threatened by. It's crazy!

People have so many fears and are so afraid of not being politically correct that it's putting a real damper on them, on their talents, and on their creativity. People are getting really uptight.

There comes a point where you just can't continue to try to live up to all of their subjective and relative expectations. You will never be able to please everybody.

So don't worry about what others think. Be real. And...

Just be YOURSELF!

# **OLD AND LOVING IT**

It's funny how some people are afraid of growing old. They are so afraid of wrinkles and the extra pound here and there.

They spend huge sums of money on creams, procedures, potions, and things to retard aging. To try to look younger, they say. It's sad.

We shouldn't be afraid of growing old. We should welcome each new stage of our lives with dignity. Wrinkles are nothing to be ashamed of. To grow old gracefully is beautiful.

We will have that glow. We will have that gleam in our eyes, if we have grown in wisdom.

We can grow old and love it...

If we live in love and mature in the knowledge of God!

"Gray hair is a crown of glory if it be found in the way of righteousness." (Proverbs 16:31)

# WATCH OUT!

It's so silly to hold grudges. Some people hold grudges for years. It's ridiculous.

Bitterness will get you nowhere. The past is past. And dwelling on the past will only rob you of the joy of today.

Bitterness destroys you more than anyone else, because it pumps its poison into your body as well as your soul.

The only way out of the dead end of bitterness is to start counting your blessings and be grateful for what you have.

So, stop your whining! Stop feeling sorry for yourself and pretending to be the victim.

God hates murmuring! If you complain long enough, He may really give you something to whine about.

You better watch out!

"Do all things without murmurings." (Philippians 2:14)

# OH OH!

There are a lot of problems in the world today, and they do need to be addressed.

But it seems like most of the time all you hear are people complaining about petty little things.

A word is misspoken, something's done unintentionally, and they make such a big stink out of it! They get on their high horse and rant and rave... over nothing! People are so unforgiving.

It's really ridiculous.

We all need to take things more in stride. We need to realize that we are all guilty of the same things, and that none of us should think we are any better than anyone else.

Only to the degree that we forgive others, will we ourselves be forgiven.

Oh oh! Think about THAT one!

"For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged, and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." (Matthew 7:2)

# IN GOD'S TOMORROW

Time shall be no more.

There will be no more sadness or pain, nor sorrow, broken dreams or internet connections.

Email will be obsolete, wifi unnecessary, no more computers, and no one will care.

We will have nutritious food, be able to bathe in every stream, and sleep under the stars.

Everyone will be pretty, all will be healthy, no one will take himself too seriously, or react in a huff.

There will be fun things to do, pleasures galore, and every day a party. The perfect place where mosquitoes don't bite, all wrongs are made right, no one will frown and all will have smiles.

We'll find time for our neighbor, feel content in our labor, and learn new things each day.

We will have learned to love, in God's tomorrow... Where time shall be no more!

"He will teach us His ways, and we will walk in His paths. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." (Isaiah 2:3-4)

### **SERIOUSLY NOW!**

Life can get serious at times. It can get downright scary! But worrying about it really doesn't get us anywhere.

They say that laughter is the best medicine. That may be true. And the world would probably be a better place if we all laughed more!

God has given us a sense of humor. He wants us to be happy, trust Him for our lives, laugh more...

And not take ourselves so SERIOUSLY!

### **TROUBLE SLEEPING?**

"If I were rich I'd be happy." That's what many people think. They think their problems would be over. They really think they would be happier.

But it seems to me that the rich and famous have more than their share of problems.(1) People are out to get them. Everything they do is criticized. They are always living in fear.

When you're rich your problems aren't over.

King Solomon said, "The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much: but the abundance of the rich will not let him sleep."(2)

He should know as he sure had it all! That's why he said we should, "Seek neither poverty nor riches."(3)

I'm grateful I'm not rich.

And I REALLY enjoy sleeping well at night!

(1) 1 Timothy 6:9
 (2) Ecclesiastes 5:12
 (3) Proverbs 30:8

### **FINDING PURPOSE IN LIFE**

They say that to be happy you need: something to do, someone to love, and something to hope for.

We all want to feel useful. We find satisfaction contributing to a project or being part of a team. That's why many people decide to become cops, firemen or join the armed forces. They find satisfaction in being part of a noble cause and helping others.

Jesus said we should love our neighbor and think of others. Because it is only in thinking of others and not of ourselves that we will find true happiness. It even cures depression!

Only God and His love can fill the heart of man. And it is only in giving His love and helping others that we can find true purpose in our lives.

#### LET'S ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER

"To be able to laugh when you feel like crying." That's how one person described a sense of humor.

The times we are living in are certainly no laughing matter, but keeping the right balance, counting our many blessings and retaining a sense of humor help us to cope. They give us strength, stamina and the grace to endure.

A sense of humor makes the ride through this life more pleasant.

We are all in this together.

Let's encourage and support each other... and let's not forget to laugh!

"Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2)

## PRAISE

Praising the Lord is a funny thing.

Most people seem to not praise the Lord. Why is that? It's like they are uncomfortable for some reason. Maybe they worry about what people will think.

Maybe some don't do it because they don't want to look like some denominations that make a lot of noise and racket shouting to the Lord in their church services. Whatever the reason may be, we really should praise the Lord.

We praise the Lord because He likes it and there is no quicker way to obtain His favor. We please Him by praising Him and thanking Him for our many blessings.

There are two times to praise the Lord: When you feel like it. And when you don't feel like it.

So then, we really have no good excuse to NOT praise the Lord!

"I will bless the Lord at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth." (Psalms 34:1)

"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord." (Psalms 150:6)

#### WHAT FUN!

There's nothing more fun than serving God. There's nothing more exciting than watching Him work.

To see your life take shape according to His plan is the coolest thing imaginable. To have His presence in your everyday life is peace.

God will guide you. God will provide. He will protect, and keep you throughout your day. God encourages, lifts up, and soothes.

> Serve God, and He will serve you! Nothing is more FUN!

"Know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord, for you serve the Lord Christ." (Colossians 3:24)

#### **THICKER SKINS**

We need to stop apologizing for things we didn't do, for things we are not even guilty of. You hear about it all the time. People get offended over the most insignificant things!

Well, some people need thicker skins. They need to stop looking to find fault. We all need to take more things with a grain of salt. We need to stop seeing evil where there isn't any.

But most of all, people need to stop apologizing so much! We need to stop these long, drawn out pathetic apologies when we meant no wrong.

Let's all be more forgiving. Let's flow more and not take ourselves so seriously!

#### **ENOUGH FOR ME**

I'm not trying to get anywhere anymore.

I'm in no rush to get to some destination that never arrives, that's continually changing and out of reach.

I'm where I'm supposed to be. I'm happy where I am.

That's enough for me.

#### **PRAY FOR THEM!**

People are strange. Some people can get offended over the most insignificant things. Even worse, is when people get offended over things that you never even said or did!

They will get offended by something they merely IMAGINED, something they only think you said or did. It's crazy.

About all you can do at times like these is trust God and continue to do good, and most of all, PRAY for these people!

"He hath shown thee what is good and what the Lord requires of thee: To do good and to show mercy; and to walk humbly with thy God." (Micah 6:8)

#### **GIVE ME THE GRACE LORD**

Life in our world is becoming a kindergarten catering to the sensibilities of a frail and delicate few who never grow up.

Political correctness abounds. Common sense is increasingly rare.

Our world has become weird indeed and holds an unsure future for all of us. Makes you want to run away and live in a cave or something.

But we don't solve our problems by running away from them. And we CAN make a difference by being a positive influence in the world in which we live. Ask God to show you how.

And most of all, ask Him to give you the grace!

"Where sin abounds, grace more abundantly abounds." (Romans 5:20)

## **BLESSED IN HIS SERVICE**

We are blessed to have the Lord.

We are grateful that we can help the needy, pray for the sick, encourage people, and generally just be a blessing to others.

We see people who have a lot more than us, but that is only materially. Because we are blessed with having the Lord by our side.

We are blessed with His guidance, protection, and love.

What else could we wish for in this life? What else could we wish for in the life to come?

We are indeed blessed.

#### HA HA HA!

Do you smile a lot? Do you smile ever?

People smile when they are happy. People smile when they are grateful. Laughing is good too.

You know what they say, "Laugh and the world will laugh with you. Cry and you'll cry alone."

The Bible says that laughter does us good like a medicine. Let's all stop taking ourselves so seriously, learn to laugh more...

And enjoy this marvelous life that God has given us!

## YOU HAVE IT BAD?

You think you have it bad? You don't have it bad! Just read any history book.

Since the beginning of time war has been waged. Countries were invaded. Their cities were plundered and burned. Their men killed. Their women raped and taken into captivity. All kinds of ugly things happened. You can read all about them in history books.

But now people whine if their train is late, when the Internet is slow, if their coffee is not hot enough, gas prices go up, or they don't get the window seat on an airplane.

People complain about all kinds of frivolous things. They are easily offended. People call *foul* for the most ridiculous reasons.

If we say we love God, let's be better examples to the world by being more forgiving, more tolerant, not whine, and by taking things more in stride.

We never had it so GOOD!

"Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

#### LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

The world is a mess. There is no disputing that. But there's still a lot of beauty around us. There is a lot of good in this world.

God's beautiful creation surrounds us as an everlasting testament of His presence and love.

Many people live unselfishly, thinking of others, working to make the world a better place. Many products make our lives easier. Many projects give us hope for tomorrow.

So if sometimes you feel discouraged, if sometimes everything you see depresses you, remember:

What you see, depends a lot on what you're looking for.

Look for the GOOD!

## **IT DEPENDS ON US**

Some people are never happy. They are always looking for love, but never finding it. They are always looking for more thrills, but are never satisfied.

They spend their lives thinking of themselves. And that is precisely their problem. As long as we only think of ourselves we will never be happy. We will have moments of joy, but nothing lasting will remain.

We go through life but once. What we make of it depends ultimately on us, and us alone.

"The generous soul shall prosper." (Proverbs 11:25)

## LIFE GETS BETTER

Life can be rough at times, but as we go along some things do get better. Not everything remains the same.

We leave some things behind, and we move on to new things. We gain new experiences. We learn to roll with the punches. We grow in wisdom. As we grow older we become more tolerant, more understanding.

We come to realize that with the Lord leading us, guiding us, and teaching us...

Life gets better!

"Forget those things which are behind and reach forth unto those things which are before." (Philippians 3:13,14)

#### **BACK TO LIFE**

The heart of man is the same the world over. Man shares the same fears, challenges, and obstacles.

And man can also share the same hopes and dreams along with their resultant satisfaction and joy. But this isn't going to happen by itself.

We need to chill out.

We need to be more grateful.

We need to think more of others.

We need to get back to LIVING AGAIN!

#### THE ROAD TO HAPPINESS

People are in such a rush today. They are always in motion, going, getting.

But are they any happier? Are they really getting anywhere? Happiness is not a destination. Happiness is a means of transportation. Life is NOT in getting everything you think you want...

But in appreciating the many things you already have!

#### JUST PASSING THROUGH

"This world is not my home, I'm just a passing through." So go the words to an old song.

So much confusion surrounds us in this world, and at times it seems to only be getting worse and worse. But isn't it great to know that a happy ending awaits us all?

Light and laughter, and peace ever after are at the end of the tunnel of this life's journey.

And all we have to do to go there ... is believe!

#### WHAT WE MAKE IT

What is life all about?

Life can be hard at times. Life can be cruel. People can be mean. They can be a real pain. But problems can produce good things in our lives, if we will let them.

So what is life all about? Maybe it's about learning to roll with the punches. Maybe it's about seeing the good and doing good.

Maybe it's about choosing to be happy, helping others and being grateful.

Life after all, is what WE make it.

## **A HAPPY ENDING**

Heaven is REAL! It exists.

When all is said and done, when our lives are done and through, only what we have done for LOVE will last.

We all know this deep down inside. We have just had this blurred by all the noise and confusion of the world.

Yes, the good news is that love will win, in the end. Love is the currency in Heaven, and in Heaven the only yardstick will be love.

So, what are you waiting for?

LOVE, here and now. Let all of your actions be guided by love... and you can't go wrong.

You will have a happy ending!



"Let all those that put their trust in Thee rejoice. Let them ever shout for joy. Let them that love Thy name be joyful in Thee." (Psalms 5:11)
"Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the Lord hath comforted His people." (Isaiah 49:13)
"It is good for a man to eat and drink, and enjoy good in his labor. This is from the hand of God." (Ecclesiastes 2:24)
"The joy of the Lord is your strength." (Nehemiah 8:10)
"God gives to the man that is good in His sight wisdom and knowledge and joy." (Ecclesiastes 2:26)

#### **A SIMPLE PRAYER**

Lord, open my mind, open my heart and open my eyes that I may see the bigger picture, Your greater plan, and how I fit into it.

In Jesus' name, amen.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

We all need to be kinder to each other. Let's spread that message however we can!

You can copy and paste and share portions of the PDF version of this book with family and friends.

See what miracles love can do!

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- - -

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#### **It's Free!**

Our mission is to encourage people to be kinder to each other.

Happiness is contagious.

# If you laugh, the whole world will laugh with you. But if you cry, you'll cry alone!

Let's stop taking ourselves so seriously and learn to laugh more at ourselves!

#### We CAN have a happier world!

If you want to be happy, stop doing the things that make you unhappy! This is sometimes easier said than

## HAPPINESS IS A CHOICE!

We all have so much to be grateful for, and it is when we stop and count our blessings that we start seeing things in their proper perspective.

So, BE HAPPY! And then share your happiness with those around you!



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done, but it's true!

If you have food in your belly, clothes on your back, and a place to lay your head, you're richer than many people on this planet, and have every reason to be happy.

And if you have someone in your life who loves you, you're richer than a king!

