



**#1:**

“The essence of the Christian life is learning to fight for joy in a way that does not replace grace.”

John Piper

When I Don't Desire God: How to Fight for Joy

**#2:**

“We cannot earn God's grace or make it flow apart from his free gift. But we can position ourselves to go on getting as he keeps on giving. We can “fight to walk in the paths where he has promised his blessings.” (John Piper) We can ready ourselves to remain receivers along his regular routes, sometimes called “the spiritual disciplines,” or even better, “the means of grace.”

David Mathis

Habits of Grace: Enjoying Jesus through the Spiritual Disciplines

**#3: Philippians 4:12-13**

I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

**#4: Hebrews 10:14**

For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

**#5: Galatians 5:25**

If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

**#6:**

“Jesus wants to express his *fullness* through you. Always begin your thinking and your planning and your deciding from the standpoint of Jesus' fullness in your life. Always begin with the plenty of God. Face life with all you have in Christ. Never face life from the standpoint of all the problems and all the needs and all the difficulties. Always begin with your standing in Christ. You have rivers of living water, Christ in you, fullness of grace and truth. That's what Jesus gives us!”

Ray Ortlund, Sr.

Sermon – May 11, 1975, *Christ is Deeper Still*, blog post by Ray Jr.

**#7: Matthew 13:44**

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.



**#8: Philippians 3:7-8**

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

**#9: Titus 3:3-5**

For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit

**#10: Ephesians 2:3-5**

Among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

**#11:**

“Grace, as used in the New Testament, expresses two related and complementary meanings. First, it is God’s unmerited favor to us through Christ whereby salvation and all other blessings are freely given to us. Second, it is God’s divine assistance to us through the Holy Spirit.”

Jerry Bridges  
Transforming Grace: Living Confidently in God’s Unfailing Love

**#12: 1 Corinthians 15:10**

By the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

**#13: Romans 15:18**

I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me

**#14: Colossians 1:29**

For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

**#15: Philippians 2:12-13**

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.



**#16:**

“(Bible reading, private prayer, and regularly worshiping God in church) are appointed channels through which the Holy Spirit conveys fresh supplies of grace to the soul and strengthens the work which He has begun in the inward man...Our God is a God who works by means.”

JC Ryle

**#17:**

“Means of grace is a lovely expression less susceptible to misinterpretation than spiritual disciplines.”

DA Carson

**#18:**

“(God’s) grace is essential for our spiritual lives, but we don’t control the supply. We can’t make the favor of God flow, but he has given us circuits to connect and pipes to open expectantly. There are paths (the means of grace) along which he has promised his favor.”

David Mathis

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