



**BIBLE STUDY**

**Active Faith IV: BOLDNESS RELEASES JOY**

**John 15:9-11 (NKJV)**

- I. FAITH IS OBEDIENCE TO GOD
- II. OBEDIENCE CREATES EXPECTANCY
- III. EXPECTANCY PRODUCES BOLDNESS
- IV. BOLDNESS RELEASES JOY

This lesson shows that when the believer truly obeys God, there is an automatic progression that produces expectancy, expectancy produces boldness, and boldness releases joy as we trust God's Word as the answer. This progression changes our attitude, strengthens our confidence in God, and develops Christlike character.

**Central Truth:** When we trust God enough to obey Him before we see the outcome, boldness replaces fear, confidence replaces shame, and joy becomes our response to God's faithfulness. **Lamentations 3:22-24.**

**Key concept:** *Joy is the absence of shame and fear* (**2 Timothy 1:7; Romans 1:16a**). Joy is the freedom to live confidently before God, not controlled by shame over our past or fear about our future. **Romans 10:11, 1 John 4:18, Romans 15:13.**

- ❖ **Shame says,** *"I am disqualified because of what I have done or what others think of me."*
- ❖ **Fear says,** *"I cannot move forward until I know what is going to happen."*
- ❖ **Bold faith says,** *"I trust God; I will obey His Word, and I will move forward in the confidence of His faithfulness."*

**Joy is the resulting freedom to live, act, and serve without being dominated by shame or fear.** This does not mean a believer never experiences painful emotions. It means those emotions no longer have control over the believer's decisions or determine the believer's attitude. We do not have to wait for the situation to change before we begin to rejoice. When we trust God, we can experience joy while the situation is still developing.



**I. Boldness releases joy because our confidence shifts from circumstances to God**  
**Romans 15:13 (NKJV)**

A. Boldness allows us to trust God's character before we see His results. -2  
**Corinthians 5:7, Romans 4:20–21**

B. Boldness changes our attitude while we are obeying. -**Philippians 4:4, James 1:2-4**

❖ **Fear says**, "What if it does not happen?"

❖ **Faith says**, "God is faithful, and I will continue to obey Him." Regardless of what happens- **Habakkuk 3:17-18**

Joy is no longer postponed until circumstances improve; it becomes part of how we live while trusting God. Joy does not mean pretending everything is going well. It means knowing that even when things aren't going well, God remains worthy of our trust.

**II. Boldness releases joy because obedience brings us into alignment with Jesus-**  
**John 15:10–11 (NKJV)**

A. **Bold Obedience** develops Christlike character. -**John 14:15, Philippians 2:5–8, 1 John 2:6, Galatians 5:22–23**

B. **Bold Obedience** produces a Christlike response. - **James 1:22, Colossians 3:12–14, Corinthians 3:18**

The goal of Active Faith is not merely to get what we want from God. It is to become more like Jesus as we trust and obey Him.

**III. Boldness releases joy because we learn to celebrate before the answer arrives.**  
**-1 Peter 1:8–9 (NLT)**

A. We can rejoice in the promise before we possess the result. **1 John 5:14–15, Psalm 5:11, John 20:29**

B. We maintain joy by continuing to act on what we believe. **Hebrews 10:35–36, Galatians 6:9, Psalm 126:5–6**



**Boldness is not just a feeling; it is confidence expressed through action.** We continue to pray, serve, forgive, give, witness, and obey, no matter the circumstances. Continued obedience keeps our attention on God's direction rather than allowing uncertainty to control our behavior.

We do not rejoice because we know every detail of the outcome. We rejoice because we know the God we trust, and we remain faithful as He directs our steps.

**IV. Joyful obedience makes us look more like Jesus.** -Philippians 2:5–8; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 5:22–23

The ripple effect of Active Faith is that our obedience changes our character, our character changes our behavior, and our behavior influences others.

- ❖ We become more **courageous** because we trust God.
- ❖ We become more **patient** because we expect Him to remain faithful.
- ❖ We become more **loving** because we live in the security of His love.
- ❖ We become more **joyful** because shame and fear no longer dictate our responses.

**The Active Faith progression teaches us that:**

- I. **Faith is obedience to God:** I trust God enough to act on His Word.
- II. **Obedience produces expectancy:** I anticipate God's faithfulness.
- III. **Expectancy produces boldness:** I act with confidence before I see the outcome.
- IV. **Boldness releases joy:** I rejoice in God while I am obeying.
- V. **Joyful obedience produces Christlike maturity:** My attitude, actions, and influence begin to look more like Jesus.

**Declaration:** I will not wait for everything to change before I change my attitude. I will trust God's Word, obey His direction, approach Him with boldness, and rejoice in His faithfulness. My joy is not controlled by what I see; it is strengthened by the God I trust.

**Prayer:** Father God, thank You for Your Word and for the power to obey it. We choose to trust You before we see the results, approach You with boldness, and rejoice in Your faithfulness. Our obedience will shape our character, our joy strengthens our witness, and our lives reflect the character of Jesus. May others see Your goodness through how we live, serve, and respond. In Jesus' name, Amen.