



Friday, 12/16/16

NO GREATER JOY

READING: 3 John 1:3-4

I remember the moment that I told my parents that I had accepted Jesus as my personal savior. My parents were believers in fact my dad was my pastor for most of my life. The pure joy that was on their faces that day still makes me smile. It was a joy that told me by their response that I had made the best choice I could ever make. It's a joy that the writer of this passage felt toward Gaius. It's a joy that recognizes the fact that we are free and walking in the truth of God's Word.

I was a Youth Pastor for many years and remember the joy I felt when students would come to me and share that their parents had just accepted Christ or one of their friends had just made a decision for Christ. When I was in High school there was a guy that sat in front of me at school who knew that I was a Christian and preceded every Monday morning to take the opportunity to try and humiliate me about going to church. Eventually I was able to just ignore it but I really felt bad. Three years later I was setting in my house when the doorbell rang and it was him to tell me that he had given his life to Christ! My pain suddenly turned to great joy and he eventually become one of my youth sponsors in the church.

Let us not forget to "Recapture the wonder" of what Christ did for us. The angels in heaven rejoice when a new believer gains that joy.

-Carl Tillery