



Whose Rights Are Right?

Part 2 – My Right to Happiness Study Guide

The pursuit of happiness is something that everyone strives to achieve. It may be chasing after something—a bigger house, a nicer car, better clothes, more friends, or a spouse upgrade. The list is endless. We think that if we chase long enough, the road will end with happiness. Yet, happiness is too small a goal to pursue. In part two of *Whose Rights are Right*, we're going to take a look at how to push past the pursuit of happiness and take hold of something better.

“But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.” –
2Corinthians 12:9

1. Part of the Declaration of Independence states that we have the right to pursue happiness. What does the pursuit of happiness mean to you? How many of your decisions are based on whether something makes you happy?

2. **Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-14.** If anyone had a right to happiness, it was Paul. However, God afflicted Paul so he could have something better. What would you say is your “thorn?” Are you able to have joy despite it?

“In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested

by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 1:6-7 (ESV)

3. **Read 1 Peter 1:3-9.** Knowing Jesus changes where we find joy. How is knowing Jesus vital to maintaining joy through all circumstances? What are some ways you have seen your own joy change since you met Jesus?

4. **Read John 15:11 and Philippians 1:25.** What do these verses say about the source of joy? Have you looked for joy in the wrong places? What can this group do to help each other stay focused on what will give us joy over happiness?