

this magazine belongs to:

# Bible Explorers

Issue 187

Love the LORD and learn!



This issue we'll be looking at fruits of  
the spirit: **JOY AND PEACE**

Is joy the same as  
happiness?

How can I find  
peace in my life?

Joy and peace in  
God's kingdom

# Hi Bible Explorers!

Have you had a good summer holidays? You might be getting a new teacher this year, or even going to a new school – we pray that all goes well for you.

This magazine we are continuing our series on the fruits of the spirit, and this time we are looking at the next two, **joy** and **peace**. Joy and peace might seem quite different from each other, but they are both fruits that we are called to grow in our lives. We might not always feel joyful or peaceful, but we can try and develop these characteristics in our lives now as we wait for the kingdom when we will be joyful and peaceful all the time!

We've also made a colouring page for the first time – please have a go and send in your colouring and you can see it in the next magazine.

Loads of love,  
Joel, Claire, and Phoebe

*P.S – as usual, all  
quotations are from the  
NKJV*

## Dear Diary

Dear Diary. Anna here!

This time, I am going to give you a Guinea pig special! I haven't yet introduced you to the smallest members of our family; Toffee and Caramel – our pet Guinea Pigs!

First, I will tell you about some 'upcoming events'. Today is my last day of Year 5 (YES!) and James' last day of Year 3. So, that means we can make plans for the summer holidays. Soon I am going to my Nain' and Grandpa's house WITH THE GUINEA PIGS! From there, I am going to a Premier Inn near my Grandma's and THE GUINEA PIGS are staying with Grandma. (Also my Aunt, Uncle and cousins are staying there too). So, it is going to be a bit of an adventure for Toffee and Caramel.

Here are some photos:



Toffee is white and dark ginger and she loves a fuss and stroke while Caramel is white with tan fur and she can be more fussy.



Guinea pigs are easy to look after but there is still a lot of work with cleaning, feeding and care. This reminds me of how God works hard to look after us in so many ways.

Here's a joke: What is a guinea pig's favourite game?  
Hide and squeak!

Bye guys,  
Anna

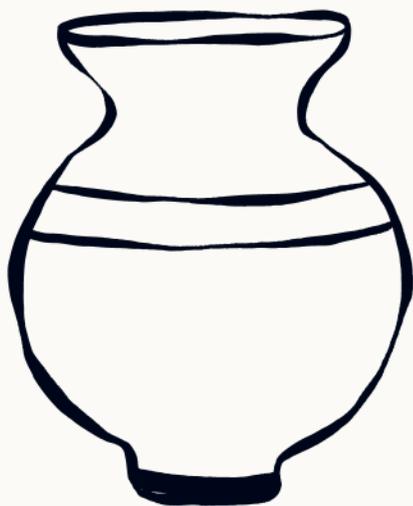


You might think that joy is the same as happiness, but is that true?

James 1:2 says that we should 'count it all joy' when we fall into trials. That means **BAD** things as well as good things should make us have joy. But, **how** does that work?! We definitely don't usually feel **happy** when bad things happen...



Romans 5:2-3 tells us that we can have **JOY** in **HOPE** of the kingdom to come. What it's saying is that 'tribulation' or bad things, help to **shape** our characters, so that we're ready for the kingdom – so they ultimately produce hope. This means that when tribulations come, we can **focus** on the kingdom and **how God is shaping us to be ready for it!**



This moulding and shaping is like how a potter makes a clay pot – can you decorate this one?



Can you complete the crossword  
all about what brings us joy or  
what joy is linked to in the Bible?

Different versions might have some  
different answers – these are from  
the NKJV.

### Across

2. Nehemiah 8:10 "the  
joy of the Lord is your  
\_\_\_\_\_"

6. Philippians 4:4  
"\_\_\_\_\_ in the  
Lord always"

7. Psalm 30:5 "joy  
comes in the  
\_\_\_\_\_"

9. Proverbs 12:20  
"counsellors of  
\_\_\_\_\_ have joy"

### Down

1. Psalm 16:11 "in your \_\_\_\_\_ is fullness of joy"

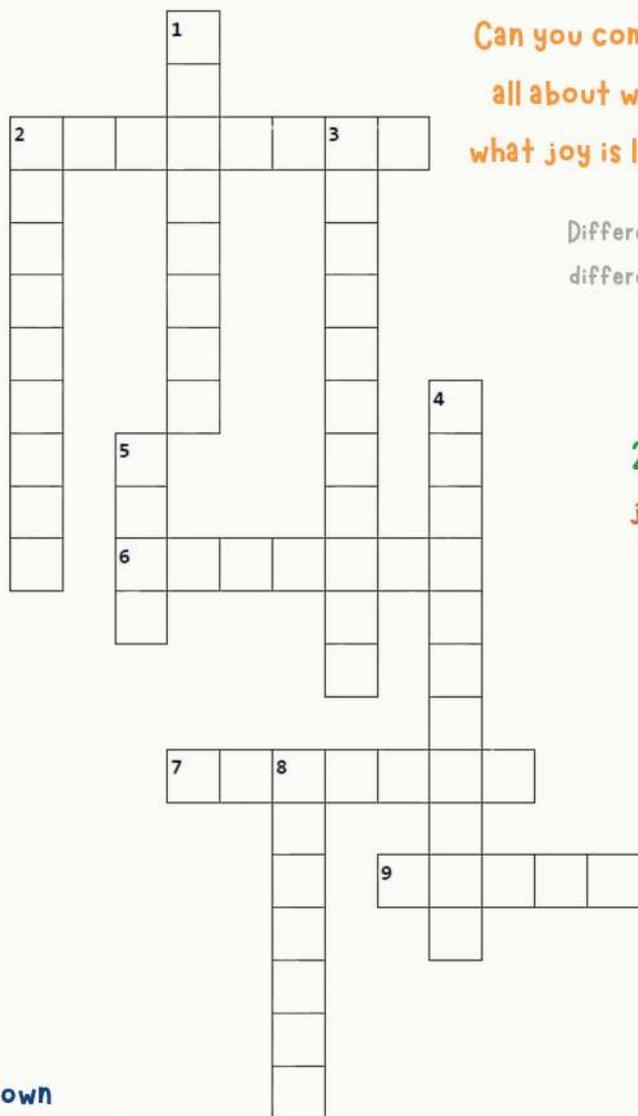
2. Psalm 51:12 "restore to me the joy of your \_\_\_\_\_"

3. 2 Corinthians 7:4 "I am... joyful in all our tribulation"

4. Philippians 2:2 "fulfill my joy by being \_\_\_\_\_"

5. Jeremiah 15:16 "your \_\_\_\_\_ was to me the joy... of my heart"

8. Luke 15:10 "there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one  
sinner who \_\_\_\_\_"



Where does joy come from? Can you match up each verse with the different sources of joy?

John 15:11

God

Psalms 16:11

Jesus

Hebrews 12:2

Each other

Philippians 2:2

Hope for the future

How can we show our joy to those around us? Remember that 'joyful' isn't the same as 'happy', so we can always show joy! Write some ideas here:

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Can you work out the clues to solve the word ladder and travel from 'sad' to 'joy'?



SAD

Hint: opposite of good

A flower before it opens

Purchase – what you do with money

Not a girl, a \_\_\_\_



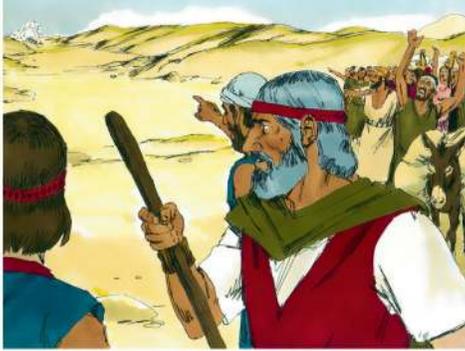
JOY

**EXPLORE MORE!**

What does Ephesians 5:19 tell us that God has given us to express our joy in Him? We've given you a little hint!



# Crossing the Red Sea



After the people of Israel escaped Egypt, the Egyptian army came after them! The people saw them approaching and cried out in fear.



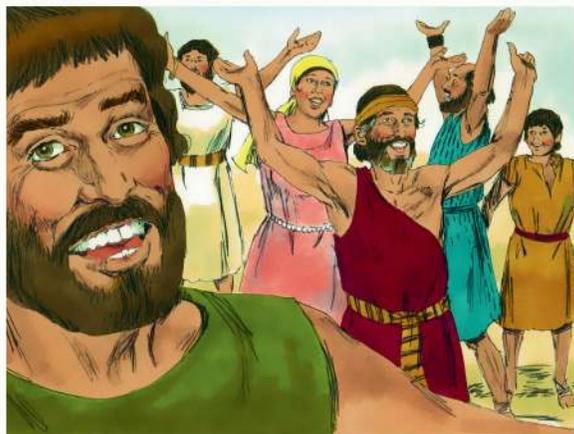
God drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The people crossed through the sea with a wall of water either side of them.



God then told Moses to raise his hands over the sea. At daybreak the walls of waters collapsed and the dry path disappeared. The whole army of Pharaoh were swept away.



The people were so full of joy that they sang a song about their rescue, to praise and give thanks to God. You can read this in Exodus 15.



In the Psalms we find out  
that it wasn't just the  
people who were full of joy.  
God had joy too!

'He brought them out  
with joy'  
Psalm 105:43

Isaiah also talks about crossing the Red Sea:

'Are You not the One who dried up the sea, the waters of  
the great deep;  
That made the depths of the sea a road for the redeemed  
to cross over?  
So the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion  
with singing, with everlasting joy on their heads.  
They shall obtain joy and gladness;  
Sorrow and sighing shall flee away.'  
Isaiah 51:10-11

These verses are talking about US!  
We can be the 'ransomed of the  
Lord' if we believe and are  
baptised – then we can experience  
this joy too, 'everlasting joy.'

**EXPLORE MORE!**  
Read Isaiah 35:10. Can you spot the  
same idea of joy and gladness? What  
event is this chapter talking about?



# PEACE

What is peace?

Do you ever feel nervous or worried about things? Perhaps worried about school, or worried what your parents will say if you break something around the house! Well, peace is the opposite of these worries.



Like 'joy', God is the source of our peace.

Isaiah 26:3 says that God will keep us in 'perfect peace' if our mind is on God and trusting in God.

We can trust in God through sharing our worries with him. Philippians 4:6-7 explains this when Paul says "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guide your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."



**EXPLORE MORE!**  
Can you find the link between joy and peace in Philippians 4?

# How can we be peaceful?

Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:9 "blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God". So what do we do to 'make peace' in our lives?

Look up the following verses and fill in the gaps to find out how we can become peacemakers

Luke 7:50 - 'your \_\_\_\_\_ has saved you, go in peace'

John 14:27 'Peace I leave with you, My peace I \_\_\_\_\_ to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be \_\_\_\_\_, neither let it be \_\_\_\_\_. (Q: Who is speaking here? A: \_\_\_\_\_)

Romans 8:6 - For to be carnally minded is death, but to be \_\_\_\_\_ minded is life and peace.

Romans 12:18 - "As much as is \_\_\_\_\_, dwell peaceably with all \_\_\_\_\_"

These verses show us that we can become peacemakers by having faith, trust in Jesus who gives us his peace, think about spiritual things, and to get on with people around us.

So if we grow peace within us as a fruit of the spirit, it can help to cast out worries.

Next, let's look at two bible stories which show examples of characters who were peaceful, even though there were scary situations around them.

## Elisha and the fiery chariots



The book of Kings tells us about a time when there was a bad King that came against one of God's prophets named Elisha. But Elisha wasn't afraid! He had peace in his heart. He knows that God's armies are with him, and will help Israel to fight against the bad king.

**EXPLORE MORE!** Compare 2 Kings 6:15-23 with Psalm 34: 7

## Jesus' Disciples in the storm

Mark 4: 35-41 tells us about a time when Jesus' disciples were in the boat with him, when a storm began! But where was Jesus? Jesus was sleeping in the bottom of the boat - oh no! Although the disciples were very frightened, when they called out to Jesus for help, he cried out "Peace, be still!" and the storm died down. Jesus can calm the storms in our lives too if we ask for his help.



Can you find 11 differences?



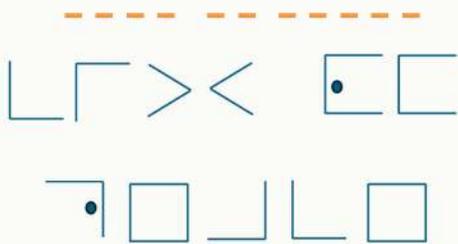
Peace, be still!

# Solomon

Unlike the bad king in the story of Elisha, Solomon was a good king. Because of this, God rewarded him with a reign of peace. The Bible tells us in 1 Kings 4 :24 that he had "peace on every side all around him."



Do you know what Jerusalem means? Crack the code to find out:



Solomon's throne was in Jerusalem, and the people enjoyed peace under his reign.

A	B	C	J	K	L
D	E	F	M	N	O
G	H	I	P	Q	R
S			W		
T	U		X	Y	
V			Z		

Solomon's kingdom is a 'type' of God's kingdom to come. Can you match up the verses below?

### Solomon's Kingdom

1 Kings 4:24

1 Kings 4:21

1 Kings 4:25

1 Kings 4:27

1 Kings 4:7

### God's Kingdom

Micah 4:4

Daniel 7:14

Psalms 72:16

Isaiah 35:1-2

Luke 22:29-30



# Joy and Peace in the Kingdom

We've given some ideas about how we can grow the **fruits of joy** and **peace** in our lives now, but most excitingly our joy and our peace will be **complete** in the **kingdom** when Jesus comes back.

Ultimately, God will be all in all, and there will be no more sin and evil – leaving all the space for peace and joy!



Isaiah 11:6



Isaiah 35:10



Rev 21:4



Zechariah

8:19



Isaiah 2: 4



Matthew 22: 2



Can you work out which Bible pictures of joy and peace in the kingdom we have showed with each picture? If you need a hint, use the verse.

# Wordsearch

R P P N S T M G L W B P W A Q J F C J T F W G  
 G A V U Q I T T B B P E A C E D T O P B K E I  
 A Y L L S J N V W F R I E N D S P L R A B U P  
 F K Z G N K O G T S J K I N G D O M E E G I U  
 V M M D J I P Y I R C O M P L E T E H F V E H  
 E Q I R Z N Q U Z N N H N Z N M T R Y X J E V  
 Y G T R U G B A R T G M K R J A N E F O X T R  
 R H G E P J C O D J U X A X E B V S C W K W Z  
 O Y Y H L E Z J B I V Z R M F Q O I I A G W R  
 Q B R T R S G H W K T K L E Q R B A R E S T E  
 O D P E S U T O Q J F E L T J F G R C R O A W  
 X L U G L S L Y M A L P C Q N O T P S L G Z Y  
 Q J P O W F Y L M I E G N C K N I W C I X L D  
 B J W T F B P V O M Q D B F X O M C S G P X O  
 L I M I I B D E C U F C S N E W S E E B T F Y  
 O I Q S U P O Y X M S O L O M O N P I T S T Q

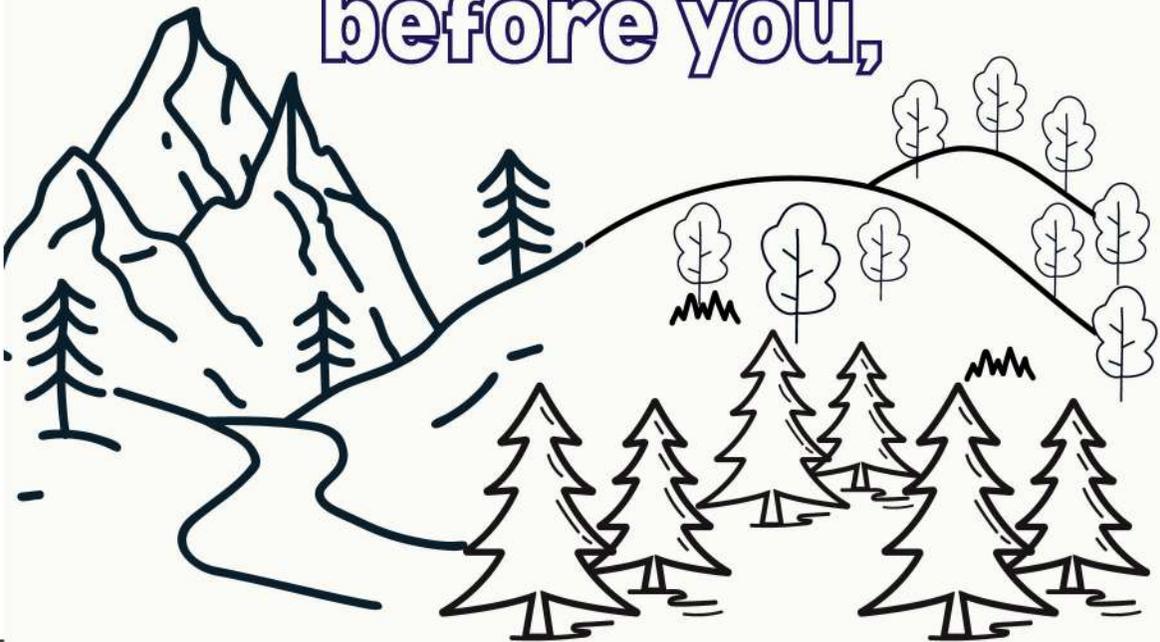
Complete Kingdom Praise Singing  
 Forever King Jesus Rejoice Solomon  
 Friends Peace Rest Together  
 Joy

Well done to Jack and Jonah Butler for completing last  
 edition's competition by finding the secret message in the  
 fruit!

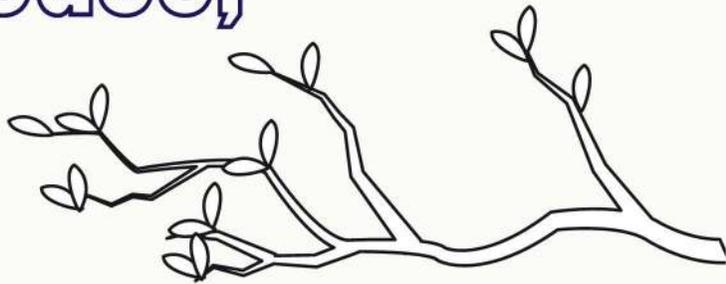
We love to hear from you, so please send in your colouring  
 verse on the next page and we would love to send you a prize.

For you shall go out  
with joy,

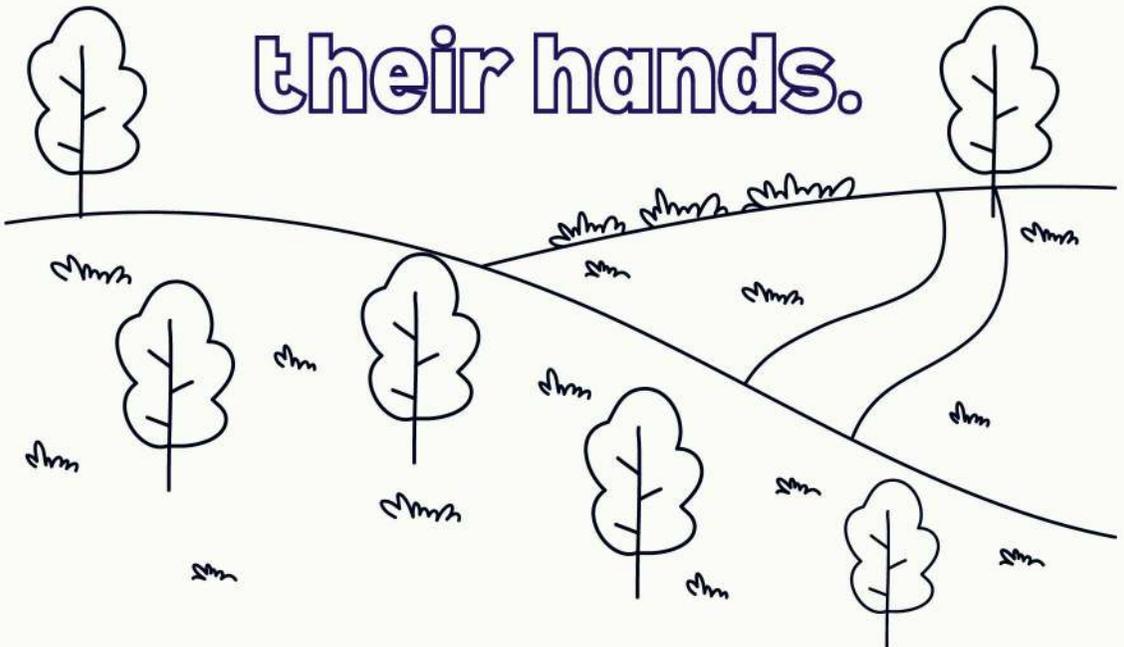
The mountains and  
the hills shall break  
forth into singing  
before you,



And be led out with  
peace;



And all the trees of  
the field shall clap  
their hands.



**Key verse:**

"Now may the God of hope fill you with all  
joy and peace in believing"

Romans 15:13

**Competition time!**

**Can you send us your coloured-in Bible  
verse from the last two pages?**

Send your answers by email to  
[phoebe.jefferies@icloud.com](mailto:phoebe.jefferies@icloud.com)

Or post to  
65 School Street  
Wolston  
Coventry  
CV8 3HG

