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## **A Declaration of Joy**

### ***Scripture Reading:***

Psalm 119:57-65, Psalm 16:7-11

### ***Reflections of the Heart:***

"I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!" John 15:11

### ***Scriptural Prayer:***

Omniscient Father, we thank You for being our God. We thank You for saving us through the sacrifice of Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. We thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to instruct, guide, teach and comfort us. Thank You, Holy Spirit, for empowering us and filling our lives with joy. Hallel YAH! Awesome Father, You are great and greatly to be praised. You are to be feared above all gods. The earth is Yours and everything in it; the world and all its people belong to You. You laid the earth's foundation on the seas and built it on the ocean depths. Lord, Your works are wonderful. You are our help and shield. In You, do our hearts rejoice because we trust in Your holy Name. Let Your unfailing love continue to surround us Lord, for our hope is in You alone.

Wonderful Father, as a Church Family, we declare that as we keep Your commands and abide in Your love; Your joy will remain in us and our joy will overflow. We know that the joy of the Lord is our strength, so we decree that we will not allow the cares of this life to cause us to stray from You, Your Word or our faith in Your promises. We will

maintain our Godly joy on a daily basis because greater is the Holy Spirit in us, than any spirit that lives in the world. Today, we confess that we will count it all joy when we fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of our faith produces patience. We will let patience have its perfect work in us so that we may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. Lord, we confess that instead of shame and dishonor; we will enjoy a double share of honor. We boldly declare that in the land we will possess a double portion of prosperity and everlasting joy will be ours.

***What is keeping you from walking in God's joy? Jot those things down, and then talk to God about them:***

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Holy Spirit, please instruct us in our families, relationships, ministries, careers and finances. Make our hearts strong, blameless, and holy as we stand before God, our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His holy people. Remind us daily of the Word which tells us that a cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength. Holy Spirit, please help each of us to develop a joyful disposition. Help us all to enjoy life and laugh more.

Loving Father, forgive us for any acts of sinfulness, including strife, discord, jealousy, rivalries, gossip and any abuse of power. Forgive us for allowing the cares of life to cause us to momentarily lose our joy. Lord, forgive me for ***(list any sins that you have committed)***. Holy Spirit, remind us all of those we need to forgive and help us to be quick to forgive. As for me, Holy Spirit, bring to my remembrance those I need to forgive. ***(Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He reveals them, say, "I forgive name of person(s)." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.)***

Holy Spirit, help us all not to yield to temptation but deliver us from the evil one.

Immortal Lord, You are the blessed and only Almighty God. The King of kings, and the Lord of lords. You alone can never die. You live in light so brilliant that no human can approach You. No human eye has ever seen You, nor ever will. To You belongs all honor and power forever and ever. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**Scripture References for the Written Text:** Psalm 96:4, Psalm 24:1-2, Psalm 33:20-22, John 15:10-11, Nehemiah 8:10, I John 4:4, James 1:2-4, Isaiah 61:7, I Thessalonians 3:13, Proverbs 17:22, Matthew 6:13, I Timothy 6:15-16

***Today, I will trust God to:***

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