

The Seven Deadly Sins

# Killjoys

*You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and new wine abound. ~ Psalm 4:7*

*Discover the Context*  
Psalm 4

“Jesus’ victory at the cross wasn’t meant to make us relax and put down our weapons. No, he died and rose to arm us with the invincible hope and power of His Spirit and promises. He went to Calvary so that we could kill our sin.” ~ Marshall Segal

*Killjoys*

(Much of today’s devotional, and in fact, the whole idea of this year’s Wednesday theme, is based on this little book.)

What are some ways you have found real joy in God’s word, in prayer, in fellowship with other believers, or in pursuing your relationship with Christ? Conversely, what are some ways you have experienced temporary joy followed by pain or emptiness when you have engaged in any of these seven deadly sins? If you are sharing in a group, be discreet and appropriate with the details.

God created you to be happy. Seriously happy. But somehow Christians have developed the idea that putting sin to death and following God is a path of drudgery, a boring series of duties, about as exciting as chewing on cardboard.

That’s a pack of lies, straight from the pit of hell. It simply is not true that you will have more joy flirting with a non-Christian than you will reading God’s word. Or that you’ll be more satisfied going to a raucous party than you will at a prayer meeting. Or that it’s more exciting to spend a few hours on social media than spending time pursuing Christ.

Back in King David’s day, their idea of a party was abundant grain and new wine. That was living large. True joy.

No, but wait—David says that God puts more joy in our hearts, and the joy he’s talking about is found in fellowship with God Himself. Sin robs us of this sweet communion with our Savior. It strangles our joy and sucks the life out of anything good in this world. Sin is anything that takes us away from the “knowledge of God’s glory in the face of Jesus Christ” (2 Corinthians 4:6).

Sin is the real killjoy.

In order to know the deadly poison of sin and how it creeps into our hearts, we are going to devote Wednesdays to exposing what has come to be known as the seven deadly sins—anger, greed, sloth, lust, pride, envy, and gluttony. There are certainly many other sins, and some of these even go by other names, but these are among the most common throughout the ages, among the most diabolically successful in drawing us away from Jesus Christ.

If you are a believer in Jesus, then He is your greatest treasure. Jesus is the source of true, lasting joy. Join the faithful in rooting out the killjoys and slaying them before they destroy your soul.

In this, you will have pleasure. [JCR]