

Lost My Joy

[Character 1 enters, interrupting, obviously looking for something, and making a great deal of commotion . Character 1 has the following signs pinned to his shirt: Lying, Bitterness, Not spending time with God.]

Character 1: I can't find it. It's got to be here somewhere. I know I had it. I just can't find it.

Character 2: What are you doing?

Character 1: I've lost it, Jerry.

Character 2: That's what it looks like!

Character 1: I mean, I can't find it. It's got to be here somewhere. *(To someone in the crowd)* Hey, have you seen it anywhere? Do you know where it is? *(To Jerry)* Do you know where it is?

Character 2: What are you talking about?

Character 1: I've lost my joy, Jerry. I know—Somebody stole it.

Character 2: Nobody can *steal* your joy.

Character 1: Well, then I've lost it somewhere. I've got to find it. What am I going to do without my joy?

Character 2: *(motions to the signs pinned to Character 1's shirt)* Hey, what are these?

Character 1: *(Character 1 looks down as if noticing for the first time)* Oh, well, I uh...

Character 2: What's this? Lying?

Character 1: Oh, give me a break, Jerry. It wasn't even a lie. I just exaggerated a little. You know, there's nothing wrong with that--just a little white lie.

Character 2: This one says bitterness.

Character 1: Bitterness!?! Well, it's not *that* bad. And if this guy did to you what he did to me, you wouldn't be able to forgive him either.

Character 2: And what about "Not spending time with God"?

Character 1: That's just not true. I spend time with God.

Character 2: When was the last time you spent time with God?

Character 1: Well, this morning in church

Character 2: And when before then?

Character 1: Um, I guess in church last week--and at least I'm in church.

Character 2: You know, I think I know where your joy is.

Character 1: Really? Where?

Character 2: Right here. *(Pulls off sins)* Underneath all that garbage. You see, joy comes from Jesus, but when you take your eyes off Christ--when you allow sin to come in and get distracted by the things of this world, that's when you lose your joy.