



[John 15:11](#)

(11) "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full.

New King James Version

If we are working on the relationship with [God](#), giving it our time and attention, then God's love for us (since He is its source) will be reciprocated back to Him in the form of obedience. We could also call our response love, keeping the commandments, or conforming to His will. Whatever we call it, our lives will then be enriched by [joy](#). Is that not a good deal? [Psalm 16:11](#) says that there is joy evermore in His presence. [Jesus](#) is confirming this here. If we will abide in God, in His love, then it will produce joy in our lives.

This kind of love is not the hormone-driven, passionate, and emotional roller coaster that we call "falling in love," but a deep, stable sense of well-being. A word of caution: This is not something that happens in a flash, just because two people know one another. It develops because the two experience a wide variety of events together. In order for two individuals contemplating marriage to determine if their lifestyles are compatible, they should use the courtship phase of their relationship to share a great many experiences together.

What is it that is produced by experiencing a great number of circumstances together? Trust in each other is produced. Within the relationship with God, He begins to trust us, and we begin to trust Him. We could call this trust "loyalty" or "faithfulness." That is the fruit of proper fellowship. Is that not what happens humanly? The same principle is at work in our relationship with God.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[Love's Emotional Dimension](#)

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for John 15:11 (<http://www.theberean.org>)



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