

Maple Springs Baptist Church

Series: Who Told You That? and the Lies We Believe

Week 2: The Lie—God Just Wants You to Be Happy

Genesis 3:1,4-5 John 8:44

The Lie: “God just wants you to be happy.”

WHY THIS LIE IS SO POWERFUL...

God designed us with longings, appetites, and affections (**Psalm 37:4**).

Genesis 3:6, the serpent tempts Eve with things God already designed her to desire:

- Fulfillment—*good for food*
- Beauty—pleasing to the eye
- Enlightenment—desirable for gaining wisdom.

The lie wasn't in the desire — it was in the direction.

THE 1st HALF OF THE LIE:

Why it feels true:

- God created joy (**Psalm 16:11**).
- God gives good gifts (**James 1:17**).
- Jesus came to give abundant life (**John 10:10**).

But the lie is in the word “just.”

Genesis 3:23–24

God is not committed to your comfort — He is committed to your Christlikeness (**Romans 8:28–29**). Holiness is not the enemy of happiness. Holiness is the pathway to joy.

THE OTHER HALF OF THE LIE:

“GOD DOESN'T CARE IF YOU'RE HAPPY.” **John 15:11**.

Galatians 5:22-23

God wants you full of joy.

WHY THE LIE WORKS:

WE CONFUSE DESIRE WITH DESTINY.

- Fulfillment without obedience (**1 John 2:16**).
- Beauty without holiness (**1 Peter 1:15–16**).
- Enlightenment without surrender (**Proverbs 3:5–6**).

THE BIBLICAL TRUTH:

GOD WANTS YOU HOLY & THEREFORE TRULY JOYFUL.

Holiness is the soil where joy grows. **Hebrews 12:10–11**.

THE GOSPEL ANSWER:

JESUS DID NOT DIE TO MAKE YOU HAPPY — HE DIED TO MAKE YOU HIS.

Jesus came to: rescue you, redeem you, restore you, reconcile you, and remake you.