Peeled – Week 2

Joy

1. Joy is not what we think it is.

***Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds,
 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.
 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. James 1:2-4***

***Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
Hebrews 12:2***

1. Joy
* Is not a result of where we are in life but where we are in Christ.

 *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.* ***Romans 15:13***

* Is a gift and not a destination.

 *I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.****John 15:11***

* Does not come from getting but from giving up.

 *So, I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.
 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.* ***Galatians 5:16-17***

* May not change our situation, but it will change our perspective.

 *Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails, and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior. The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he enables me to go on the heights.* ***Habakkuk 3:17-19***

3, Three principles for living joyfully:

 *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28*

* All things happen to us.
* When good things happen, its God.
* Although bad things will happen; God will work them for good.