

## Pope Francis Lesson 7

### Rejoice! (April)



Let us point out the Risen Christ to those who ask us to account for the hope that is in us (cf. 1 Peter 3:15). Let us point him out with the proclamation of the word, but above all with our lives as people who have been raised. Let us show the joy of being children of God, the freedom that living in Christ gives us, which is true freedom, the freedom that saves us from the slavery of evil, of sin, and of death! Looking at the heavenly homeland, we shall receive new light and fresh strength, both in our commitment and in our daily efforts.

- General Audience, April 10, 2013

God does not wait for us to go to him, but it is he who moves forward toward us, without calculation, without quantification. That is what God is like. He always takes the first step; he comes toward us.

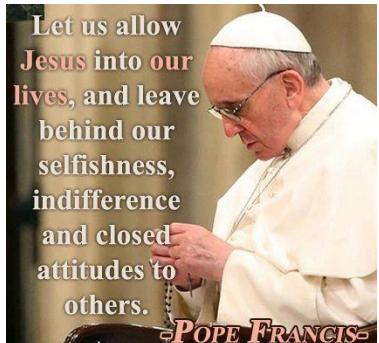
- General Audience, March 17, 2013

We must remain close to people's real lives. Our passion is for Christ but also for the people of Christ. Jesus himself is the model of this.

His entire ministry was about people. He looked into their eyes, touched them with his hands, and ate and drank with them. He gave himself for us people, which led to his self-emptying act on the cross. We likewise should move into society and out of our churches.

We should rejoice with the happy and weep with the sad.

- The Joy of the Gospel, #268-269



Some Christians live like it's always Lent! They forgot about Easter. I do realize that some people are suffering greatly and happiness seems far away for them. But even in these cases, it is possible to live with self-giving love that leads to happiness.

- The Joy of the Gospel, #6