

The Mystery Of Happiness - Solved

By

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Theme:

Many people are searching for happiness for their lives. They look in a number of places for the joy that they feel they should be experiencing within and they are often left void. The mystery of happiness can be solved by following the teaching of the bible. Within we shall find the keys to living a peaceful, joyous, fulfilled life.

Biblical Reference:

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Approximate Running Time:

5 minutes

Props:

Police detective badge
Bible
A small writing pad and pencil

Cast of Characters:

Agent Smith: Agent Smith is a Dragnet kind of a detective. He is dressed in black from head to toe, is wearing dark sunglasses, and a black derby style hat. His manner of speech is that of a detective, monotone, matter of fact, and well-paced.

Beth: Beth is a chatty lady in her mid-30's. She is at the end of her rope and is willing to try anything to find the happiness she has long been searching for.

Scene:

Agent Smith enters and approaches Beth's door. He checks that he has the right address and rings the doorbell. He then straightens his coat and tie to look his best. Beth straightens herself up before she answers the door.

Beth: Hello. Can I help you?

Smith: No 'Mam, you can't help me. But I am here to help you. Agent Smith. Private Detective. Mystery division. [*Displays badge.*] It has come to my understanding that you are searching for the solution to the mystery of happiness and you're not sure how to find it.

Beth: Well, yes, but how did you know, I mean I only told a few people that I was struggling with this, I wonder who could have told you about it...

Smith: Just the facts 'Mam, just the facts. It's not that I'm not interested in hearing your story, because I am, it's just that there are hundreds of mysteries just waiting to be solved. That's up to me. I'm Agent Smith. Private Detective. Mystery division. I haven't the time to hear your story. I need only the facts.

Beth: I'm sorry. I'm not usually like this. Normally I'm quite a nice person to speak with, both in person and on the phone. I guess it's just because you startled me, or something like that...

Smith: You're doing it again. Can we please just stick to the facts here? [*Beth nods. Agent Smith Pulls out pad and pencil.*] Thanks. Now on to your case. I believe that it was you who called our office, you spoke with our secretary and that's why I'm here now. Please 'Mam, can you tell me when it was that you first noticed that you were unhappy?

Beth: Well, I can't point towards a specific date and say "that's the day I became unhappy" or anything like that. It just happened over time, gradually, you know. I began speaking with my friend Sally who was telling me...

Smith: Uh, you're doing it again. Now tell me, what prompted you to call my office?

Beth: I just got sick of the feeling that things aren't going to get any better. I knew that I had lost my happiness and I couldn't find it again, and I was afraid that I wouldn't be able to find it again, so I called you. I didn't know what else to do.

Smith: If it makes you feel any better, you're not the only one searching for happiness. [*Beth is gradually more and more upset by Agent Smith's monologue on happiness.*] A lot of people have lost it, some don't know they lost it, some know but are afraid to admit it, some are about to lose it, and some never had it in the first place. They're all searching, some in all the wrong places. Some will find it, in time. Some will search for the rest of their lives, never finding it, living the rest of their lives in misery knowing that they failed. But that won't happen to you.

Beth: Do you know where to find it?

Smith: That's where I come in. I've learned where to find true happiness and contentment. [*Pulls out Bible.*] It's all in here. [*Hands it to her.*]

Beth: The Bible? The answer to the mystery of happiness is in here?

Smith: Yes 'Mam. But it's not just gonna' pop out right into your face. You've still got to search for it. It's in there all right. You just have to find it.

Beth: But what do I have to do to get it back?

Smith: I'm gonna' tell you what it says in there. Philippians, chapter four says, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." That's true happiness. That's what you're looking for. And that's how to get it. I've done my part, now you have to do yours. Read that book. Study it. Live it. Then you'll solve this case on your own. [*Closes notebook. To audience.*] Case closed.

Beth: Thank you Agent Smith.

Smith: All in a day's work 'Mam. And now, if you'll excuse me, I've got other mysteries to solve. Hope they're all as easy as this one was.

[*He exits. Beth waves as he exits, closes door, and exits with a smile on her face while paging through the Bible.*]

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