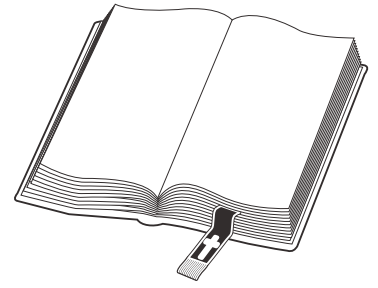


The Delight of God's Commandments

*"And I will delight myself in Your commandments, which I love.
My hands also I will lift up to Your commandments, which I love.
And I will meditate on Your statutes." Psalm 119:47-48*



Number 2 in the series "The Joy of Obeying God's Word"

Beloved, do you delight yourself in God's commandments? Do you love them, or do you see them as hard? I speak in churches, retreats, and conferences throughout the United States and internationally. My only teaching material is the Bible, the infallible Word of the only true and living God. As I teach God's truths for every situation in our lives, people constantly tell me, "Janice, this is hard." But beloved, 1 John 5:2-3 reads, *"By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome."*

When we obey God's commandments, it is evident that we love Him, that we trust Him, and that we believe His ways are best for our lives. When we murmur, complain, and say that God's truths are hard, it is distrust, doubt, unbelief, anger, and bitterness towards God. It is also pride in thinking that we know better than God. John 8:31-32 reads, *"Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, 'If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.'"*

Only those who obey God's Word are His disciples. Only in God's Word will we find truth, and only by knowing and obeying God's truth will we be set free. Beloved, when we buy a hair dryer, a computer, a toaster, a car, a lawnmower, etc., they all come with an instruction book on how to operate and maintain them. Well, God is our Creator. His Word is

our instruction manual. When we obey it, we work in harmony with Him and His will, and our lives glorify Him.

When I put my trust in Christ as my Savior in 1976, my life was in ruins. Coming from an alcoholic home where I was constantly abused, I was full of hurts, fears, insecurities, distrust, bitterness, anger, and unforgiveness. The Holy Spirit revealed to me that the Bible was my only hope if I wanted to be healed, delivered, and set free. It had nothing to do with my feelings. It was all about obedience to God and His Word. It became my delight to obey God's commandments because as I obeyed and forgave my enemies the way Christ forgave me when I was His enemy, HIS AMAZING GRACE started to heal my heart, soul, and body. As I obeyed God's commandments and repented of my bitterness, anger, and unforgiveness, the Holy Spirit in His power set me free.

I felt like I had been in prison all my life, and obedience to God's commandments was the key that opened my prison door. I praise God for freedom in Christ. Everyone I meet who keeps saying God's ways are hard never gets set free. Those who trust, obey, and love God's commandments receive forgiveness, cleansing, deliverance, healing, restoration, and freedom in Christ. Again, beloved, if you keep saying God's ways are hard, you will never be set free. I hope that you are learning to love God's commandments.

— Janice McBride

All scripture is taken from the New King James Version of the Bible.

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Preparing Christ's Bride Ministries is an international ministry. Janice is from Scotland and lives in St. Louis, Missouri with her husband, Richard. They minister at retreats, churches, military bases and prisons, helping people to glorify Jesus through obedience to His Word.