

# God's Word Gives Me Hope

*"Remember the word to Your servant, upon which You have caused me to hope.  
This is my comfort in my affliction, for Your word has given me life."  
Psalm 119:49-50*



## Number 21 in the series "The Joy of Obeying God's Word"

Beloved, I was 38 years old when I put my trust in Jesus as my Savior. Until then I lived a life of hopelessness. *I didn't know* that I could go to God for help, that I could pray and talk to Him, or that He would care about my life and want to help me. *I didn't know* that the answers to all my questions could be found in the Bible. *I didn't know* that the Lord wanted to comfort me in the midst of my tests, trials, and sorrow. I didn't know that through GOD'S AMAZING GRACE I could have a new life in Christ!

Over the years as I daily read and applied God's Word to every situation in my life, I experienced the power of the Holy Spirit to deliver, cleanse, heal, set me free, and restore my spirit, soul, and body. Psalm 31:24 reads, *"Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the Lord."* As a new believer, Satan constantly tried to tell me there was no hope for my marriage. Each day as I read my Bible, the Lord would give me the courage and strength I needed to trust Him, and I have seen Him heal and restore my home. *I love my husband more every day!*

Psalm 33:20-22 reads, *"Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield. For our heart shall rejoice in Him, because we have trusted in His holy name. Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, just as we hope in You."* In the years my husband and I have ministered in this country and internationally, we have had many tests, trials, and temptations. The Lord has been our constant help. He has never failed

us! He has been our shield and protection against the fiery darts of the enemy. We have constantly rejoiced in His mercy towards us. Psalm 71:4-6 reads, *"Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man. For You are my hope, O Lord God; You are my trust from my youth. By You I have been upheld from birth; You are He who took me out of my mother's womb. My praise shall be continually of You."*

When I look back over my life, I can clearly see that the Lord was faithful to me all of my life. He protected me in the womb when my mother tried to abort me three times. As a child in Scotland during the Second World War, He saved my life during the bombings. He kept me sane during the years I was abused in an alcoholic home.

When I look back over my childhood, I do not focus on all of the sorrow, suffering, and pain; I focus on the goodness of the Lord who was constantly with me even though I was not aware of it at the time. I constantly rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit who gave me the grace to forgive my mother and those who had abused me, and He gave me the grace and the joy of praying with my mother as she accepted Christ as her Savior. God's Word has been my constant *hope*. Beloved, trust and obey the Bible.

— Janice McBride

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

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