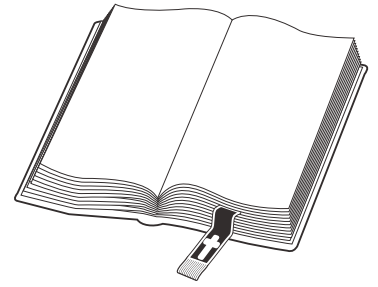


I Love the Bible

"Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day." Psalm 119:97



Number 43 in the series "The Joy of Obeying God's Word"

Ever since I put my trust in Christ as my Savior, I have had a love for the Bible. I love to read, study, and obey God's Word. I repeat: obey God's Word. I have never read it for knowledge; I read it for relationship. The more I read and spend time with my Lord, the more I love Him and the quicker I am to obey. My obedience is out of love, not out of rules. Love for Jesus and obedience to the Bible have transformed my life.

Job 23:12 reads, *"I have not departed from the commandments of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food."* From the time I became a believer, I have treasured God's words spoken to me from the Bible. I have often missed meals and gone on short and long fasts spending time with my Lord.

Jeremiah 15:16 reads, *"Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; for I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts."* Beloved, God's Word (even when it corrects and disciplines me) has always brought joy and rejoicing to my heart because Hebrews 12 tells me that whom the Lord loves, He chastises. Ephesians 1 tells me that through Christ I have been adopted into God's family. I am called by His name! God is my heavenly Father, and He chastises me for His glory and my good!

Psalm 119:47-48 reads, *"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."* For 16 years I

was a battered and abused child. It brought death to my heart and soul. But God's chastisement brings peace, joy, a clean conscience, and life to my heart and my soul. I am grateful to my heavenly Father who does not allow me to get away with sin because He loves me. He wants to keep me close to Him.

The Bible comforts me...it encourages me and gives me hope...it gives me counsel and direction...it gives me wisdom for every situation that I face daily...it cleanses me from sin...it heals my broken heart...it gives me peace and joy...it restored my broken marriage.

Psalm 40:8 reads, *"I delight to do Your will, O my God, and Your law is within my heart."* Beloved, many professing Christians do not read the Bible, and many read and study but do not obey it. I read it for a close intimate relationship with my Father God, with my Savior and Friend Jesus Christ, and with my Friend the Holy Spirit.

I encourage you to spend time daily reading the Bible, building a close relationship with Jesus Christ, and through it, GOD'S AMAZING GRACE will transform your life. Again, build a close relationship with Jesus Christ and through that and obedience to God's Word, God will transform your life.

— Janice McBride

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

Preparing Christ's Bride Ministries

1941 Croftdale Drive, Florissant, MO 63031 • janice@janicemcbride.com

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.