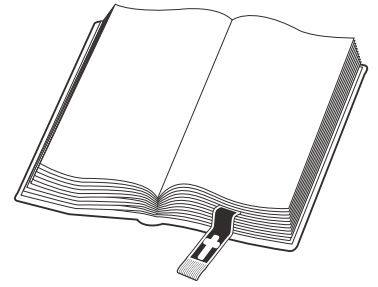


# Darkness in the Life of the Believer



*“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”* Psalm 119:105

## Number 53 in the series “The Joy of Obeying God’s Word”

Beloved, is there darkness in your life today? There may be darkness of temptations and sinful habits from which you feel you will never be free. It may be drugs...alcohol...smoking...adultery...pornography...gluttonous eating...anger...hate...bitterness...unforgiveness...shopping sprees...jealousy...envy...procrastination...lying...deception...pride...gossip...bulimia...anorexia...guilt from an abortion...stealing from your workplace...shoplifting...incest...homosexuality...cheating at school or college...being verbally or physically abusive...selfishness...a critical tongue...fault finding...blame shifting...making excuses...justifying...or refusing to take responsibility for the sin in your life. I could go on and on.

I speak in churches throughout the United States and other countries, and every sin I have mentioned is in the lives of people who regularly attend church and profess to be believers. We may refuse to acknowledge our sin; we may see it but willfully continue in it or excuse it. We may have tried many times to get free, but keep giving in to temptation and feeling hopeless. Some of us daily live in darkness. The darkness in our lives may be the result of pain and sorrow, chronic health problems, divorce, a job loss, a rebellious child, the death of a loved one, single parenting, infertility, loneliness, wanting to be married, depression, a mate in adultery, a mate addicted to pornography, alcohol, drugs, overspending, and other addictive habits. Your darkness may be from an abusive childhood, an abusive mate, parent, or child, a relative or friend who committed suicide, or a kidnapped or murdered child. You may be the victim of incest or rape. Again, the list is endless.

The darkness in our lives as the consequence of our own sinful choices or sin done to us is the result of living in a sin-filled world. Jesus wants to help us. That may seem oversimplified to you. I am not talking about a quick fix or easy answers or a life free of tests, trials, temptations, and suffering. I know from personal experience that GOD’S AMAZING GRACE can help us in every situation.

When I surrendered my life to Christ as my Savior, my life was full of darkness. The darkness of growing up in an alcoholic home where I was constantly physically, emotionally, verbally, and sexually abused. The darkness of guilt and shame as the result of sinful habits in my life and having committed murder through an abortion I had. The darkness of a marriage on the brink of divorce. The darkness of several physical illnesses. Psalm 119:105 reads, *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”* This has been true in my life. My close relationship with Jesus and obedience to the Bible has brought light, hope, peace, and joy. It transformed my life and my marriage. It has taken time, but Jesus has faithfully brought light into my life one area at a time, and He continues to do so.

Beloved, we do not have to walk in darkness. The Bible can be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. People and situations may never change, but Jesus will help us if we allow Him.

— *Janice McBride*

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*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.