



## **Live in the Fear of the Lord Through Obedience**

*The church then had peace throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria, and it became stronger as the believers lived in the fear of the Lord. And with the encouragement of the Holy Spirit, it also grew in numbers. Acts 9:31, New Living Translation*

**Have** you ever had the experience when faced with a decision that it seems you have two angels on your shoulders? What is needed in that moment is **obedience**.

**Obedience** is not always easy and comfortable!

Let's focus on the statement in today's text and see what we can learn from "living in the fear of the Lord."

**First**, what is the meaning of the word "fear" here?

There are typically two types of fear the Word of God refers to:

- 1) Reverence- to revere, honor, and/or respect.
- 2) Trembling- to tremble, to be fearful; almost scared.

**What** the Bible is referring to here is reverence, as in honoring and respecting what God is asking us to do.

So, what happens when we live in the fear of the Lord?

1. **We live stronger-** The Holy Spirit takes us from simply existing to having purpose in *how* we live and *why* we live. We need to live with purpose and direction! We need the Holy

Spirit leading and guiding us in our walk with him!

2. **The Church lives stronger-** The Holy Spirit takes the church to a whole new level of growth, both spiritually and numerically. As we need the Holy Spirit to lead and direct us personally, we need the Holy Spirit leading and directing our church.
3. **We both live prayerfully.** We are to pray about everything! We are to do what we do through prayer! Through prayer lives are changed, direction is given, people receive healing, messages are preached, Bible studies are lifechanging, money is given, money is spent, people are visited, missionaries are supported, and so on!

*Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints... Ephesians 6:18*

4. **We become more like God.** We walk in unison with the will of God. *And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple,*

*and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being such as saved.*  
*Acts 2:46-47*

Let's look at the word "obey" as an acrostic for Acts 2:46-47:

**One<sup>n</sup>ess**- Obedience leads to living in one accord with each other.

**Bold<sup>n</sup>ess**- Obedience empowers us to live and speak as a child of God, and as a community of God.

**Edifi<sup>c</sup>ation**- Obedience leads to edifying one another.

*And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.*

*Ephesians 4:11-12.*

**Yielded**- Obedience leads to a life yielded to the will of God. s we obey the Word of God and

the promptings of the Holy Spirit we begin to live to a life yielded to God and his way (Ephesians 4:12-16).

*What is our challenge this week, Walkersville Community Church? We are a world where people have to be doing something. During the Good Friday service, we spent a lot of time in quiet and you could sense the Spirit moving. Spend time this week just being quiet and listening to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit, then obey.*