



Tending Your Heart of Joy in the Lord

— Sally Clarkson —

Introduction

“But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.” Philippians 3:7

“Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.” Hebrews 10:35-56

“Endurance is finishing well, determining not to be shaken... the only way to live this life well is to live it with God.”

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Renew Your Mind

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” Romans 12:2

“And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.” Ephesians 4:23-24

Listen to God

He wants to talk to you!

What voices are you listening to?

“God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.” Hebrews 1:1-3

“And now this commandment is for you, O priests. If you do not listen, and if you do not take it to heart to give honor to My name,” says the Lord of hosts, “then I will send the curse upon you and I will curse your blessings; and indeed, I have cursed them already, because you are not taking it to heart.” Malachi 2:1-2

“For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty, how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard.” Hebrews 2:1-3

“Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, “Today if you hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as when they provoked Me, As in the day of trial in the wilderness, Where your fathers tried Me by testing Me, And saw My works for forty years. “Therefore I was angry with this generation, And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, And they did not know My ways’; As I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’” Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called “Today,” so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.” Hebrews 3:7-13

Learn from Jesus

“Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” Matthew 11:29

How did He come?

How did He live?

What did He come to do?

“Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work.’” John 4:34

Lean into the leading of your partner. When the two become one the dance is graceful.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6

Understand God’s Sympathetic Heart

“For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” Hebrews 4:15-16

Habitually Read God's Word

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

Psalm 119:105

“Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.”

Psalm 119:11

“How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But
his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day
and night. He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which
yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever
he does, he prospers.”

Psalm 1:1-3

Seek God Every Day

Make a commitment to love God every day with all your heart

“Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ‘Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. ‘Give us this day [e]our daily bread. ‘And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.’” Matthew 6:9-13

God is doing a work in your life. You have a decision to make. You can be a great person in the work of your life. You have to choose to hold fast.

Will you hold fast? Will you endure? Everyone around you is looking for a hero to watch to show them what real faith looks like.