



Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM

Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study 1:30 PM

7:00 PM

www.collinsvillecoc.org

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth... in every place. (1 Thessalonians 1:8)

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Obedience and Gladness of Heart

One of the greatest ways to experience gladness of heart is to be obedient to the word of God. The people of the Southern Kingdom had been in Babylonian captivity for 70 years. When the people began returning to Jerusalem, they returned to their beloved city burned with fire and the temple and city walls reduced to rubble. Nehemiah led a group back and they rebuilt the walls in 52 days. Under the prophesying of Haggai and Zechariah and the leadership of Zerubbabel, the foundation of the temple was laid.

On one occasion after returning, Ezra gathered the people together to hear the law of Moses read. As the chief fathers, priests, Levites, and Ezra were gathered together reading, they found in the law that the children of Israel were to dwell in booths while celebrating the feast of booths in the seventh month. The leaders were able to read and then publish this information to the people so they could be obedient to the word of God.

When the people realized they were not following God's law, they began implementing and fulfilling the requirements to celebrate the feast. As a matter of fact, they had not properly celebrated the feast since the days of Joshua the son of Nun. *"And all the congregation of them that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very great gladness"* (Neh. 8:17).

Obedying the word of God should bring gladness to the heart. Knowing that the word of God is being adhered to and obeyed should bring a merriment to the heart like nothing else.

We could have more gladness in our hearts through obedience to the word of God. Let's make it a point in our lives to read and obey the commands of God so that we can enjoy this same gladness in our lives.

-K.A. Pugh

A tractor (truck) was transporting a long, large beam. The beam itself was too long to fit on a flatbed trailer. So part of it was resting on a small trailer connected to the tractor. The end of it was resting on a second one axle contraption that had its own steering mechanism. It was only with such a steering mechanism that the beam could be guided around curves, obstacles, and turns.

So it is with us in life. We need to be guided around the obstacles and through the turns that stand in our way. Who is your guide? Jehovah God is the One upon whom you should depend to guide you through life.

For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me; you take me out of the net they have hidden for me, for you are my refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. Ps 31:3-5 ESV

Trust in God as your guide and leader. Read His manual daily and follow His guide. Have a great rest of the week as you serve the Lord our God.

TLM

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