

November 10, 2021

1 John 3:24 *The one who keeps God's commands lives in Him, and He in them. And this is how we know that He lives in us: We know it by the Spirit He gave us. (NIV)*

I grew up with many of the old standard hymns. We had choirs in almost every church back then. One of the hymns I recall was Trust and Obey. I remember my mother singing in the choir and I would sit on the second pew from the front so that she could keep an eye on me. (And there were many times I got the EYE from her.) You moms know what that means.

As a young boy, I often had a problem with the idea of obedience. It wasn't that I didn't want to obey, it's just that I had too much energy to just sit and be patient. I was always wanting to move and make noise and do things. To sit and listen to the pastor for at least forty-five minutes was an eternity to me. For the most part, I did okay until one morning, I decided to get my younger sister out of the nursery and have her sit by me. When the choir marched in that morning, I immediately got the 'eye' from my Mom. Needless to say, it didn't go well that day for me.

Obedience is not natural for anyone. We must choose to obey. It takes discipline and desire to honor and please the one that is in control. John states that the one who keeps God's commands lives in Him. The translation literally means that we abide in His word and by His directions. Knowing the word of God allows us to follow it and for Him to abide in us by His Spirit. It is in trusting the LORD that we find salvation and in obeying the LORD that we have sweet communion with Him. Let us abide in Him and He in us!

Dear LORD, forgive us in our disobedience and help us to desire to walk in You and You in us. We need Your guidance and direction in every step of our lives. In Jesus Name, Amen