

Obedience saves a life

By Elise L. Moore, C.S.

Last time, we discussed how God is talking to us 24 hours a day. Prayer is turning to God (tuning in), listening, immediate obedience, and gratitude. Beginning with this article, I'm going to share a series of true stories about myself, my Mother, and students in my Sunday school class. These experiences have one thread in common. Someone's life was saved by listening to God and obeying immediately.

The first story is about my Mother. How her life was saved by listening and obeying God's thoughts.

She was a college student living in a sorority. Every Friday night she went out with a guy, we'll call him, Jim. Well, it was about Wednesday night. She was studying, and this thought came to her.

"Don't go out with Jim Friday night." "What?" she thought back, "I always go out with Jim Friday night."

My Mother started arguing with the thought. (How often do we find ourselves arguing with God? We don't care for the message He is sending us. It's not what we had in mind. It doesn't fit our personal plan.)

She argued mentally, "If I don't go out with Jim, no one else will ask me out. I'll be sitting home alone."

The third time the message came, "Don't go out with Jim Friday night."

In a last ditch effort, she shot back, "Well, why not?"

This time the thought came, "Because sometimes he does crazy things."

Mother had learned that God speaks to us. She had learned to be willing to listen at all times, even when doing her homework, and to obey. So when Jim called later that week, she told him she couldn't go out with him.

Sure enough on Friday night all the girls had dates, but her. She was home alone and decided to just go to bed early.

In the morning when she went down for breakfast, conversation stopped when she walked in the room. Finally someone spoke. There had been a terrible accident. Jim and his date and another couple were in his convertible. He'd been driving too fast. Went airborne. His date flew out of the car. Hit her head on a bridge abutment and was in the hospital, paralyzed from the neck down. The name hadn't been released because her parents hadn't been notified. They all thought it was my Mom...because she always went out with Jim on Friday night.

Listen to God and obey immediately. It may save your life.

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