

Trust and Obey

"To obey is better than sacrifice." 1 Samuel 15:22

Have you ever thought about the fact that the words obey and control are exact opposites? Webster defines obey as "to be guided by," where control means, "to direct." Sometimes it's difficult to accept our inability to control every aspect of our ministry. We always want to do it our own way!

A few years ago Dr. Dobson selected me as a speaker for teen girls during Focus on the Family's Life on the Edge Tour. The mission statement for that series of conferences was "to help parents and their teenagers navigate successfully throughout the critical issues of teen years together." Wonderful concept! The problem was that I had never spoken to teen girls before! But God's message to my fearful heart was to obey this calling and to trust Him.

I approached the 1,000 teen girls with fear and trembling. Thankfully, the Holy Spirit spoke through me once again. A teenager was in the audience and was particularly moved by His message. Along with Jan Monski, director of an Alabama pregnancy care center, God allowed me to hold her hand as she accepted Christ into her heart. What a blessing to watch the Holy Spirit transform her expression and life. I'm confident He has a great plan for her future.

The blessing of giving control to God is discovering His perfect will is better than our own. The most powerful tool of any Christian is the ability to know God's voice and respond accordingly. As 1 Samuel 15:22 says, *"... to obey is better than sacrifice."* Next time you feel out of control, remember, our Lord reigns!