



# SHEPHERD'S DIARY

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**D**ear Beloved,  
I am certain the word obedience invokes memories – some warm and others not. As a young child you were probably told to just 'obey instructions' because 'you will not understand'. Now, as an adult you would not obey instructions without a clear understanding because you are now capable of understanding (and maybe even boast of being 'woke'). This connection of obedience and understanding could become a great hindrance to the manifestation of God's power in our lives as believers.

The truth is, obedience is not connected to understanding. Actually, the reason for an instruction is often found in the obedience; in other words, the understanding is found in the obedience. I know this might be new to you but it is very important that as a believer you come to this reality. Let's reinforce this simple truth with two biblical stories: Jesus' first miracle at the Wedding in Cana (*John 2:1-11*), and Naaman's healing (*2 Kings 5:10-14*).

In Cana, after the couple ran out of wine, Mary approached Jesus about the matter. Although Jesus did not give her a positive response, she told the servants to do whatever Jesus told them to do. Now, the servants did not know who Jesus was (He had done no public miracle yet), they



did not have any faith in him and they definitely did not understand his instruction to 'fill the pots with water', but they simply obeyed. No understanding, no believe, yet a mighty miracle!

Just as in Cana, Naaman the Syrian general did not understand the instruction given, in fact he was angry and, on his way back to his country before he was persuaded to just 'do what the man said' by his servants. He went into the river frowning, no faith, no understanding, wondering what he was even doing. But we know that his obedience released God's power. He was cleansed of his disease.

It is obedience, not understanding that unlocks the power of God. As a child of God rather than striving for understanding, walk in obedience.

Even those who did not believe in Him were blessed by simply doing as He asked! Did you know the Lord delights in obedience more than sacrifice? (*1 Samuel 15:18-22*). When you consider the meaning of the word delight you will understand the reason why obedience unlocks the floodgate of heaven. Delight His heart, walk in obedience and see the floodgate of heaven open up!  
Grace to your heart, amen.

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With Joy Emovon

