



JOHN 3.16 FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON,
THAT WHOEVER BELIVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

Take a chance... you will not regret!

Living
Jeanette

TAKE A CHANCE... YOU WILL NOT REGRET!

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*Living
Jeanette*



www.livingjeanette.com

m

contact@livingjeanette.com

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Introduction

My name is Jeanette, and I have started the blog; www.livingjeanette.com.

I love cooking, to take pictures and to be out in the nature, and I also love being a Christian. In this book I want to share with you my story about when I became a Christian, and some of the thoughts and struggles we can have about this subject.

I want you to remember that this is my story, and that we all can experience this differently. In my life I have read a lot of books about how other people experienced different circumstances, and I have always find that very helpful. That is why I want to tell my story too, because it might give you some inspiration and I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide me writing this book, so I speak from my heart to your heart. If you are not familiar with who The Holy Spirit is, don't worry. I will have a chapter in this book telling about who he is, what he does and why it is good for us to know him.

Over the years I have learned that there is one thing that gives the standard for my choices in life. And that is attitude. Like many others I have had ups and downs, and it is fun living when Your feeling on top of the mountain, but not so fun when you are at the bottom. It is not so much the circumstance's that has determined how my day went, it is mostly my own thoughts and the supporting feelings around my thinking.

The dandelion is a strange flower. Some might not agree that it can be called a flower. That it is ugly and have no use. Peoples thinking do not make a difference if the dandelion still remains as a part of our nature. From just having roots in Europe and Asia, it is now all over the world, and it has a special strength. They can grow almost anywhere no matter the circumstance's.

I believe you and I are the same way. But a small difference is that we have the choice to determine our choices. If I put my mind on something happy, then eventually I will feel happy because that is the way our body works. Our feelings are led by our thoughts.

For so many years I have had such ruff circumstances. And I eventually got tired of fighting my feelings that where connected to what I was going through. Have you ever heard about the eye of the storm? Where there is complete silence. I have found out that I can have that in my life. Complete joy and peace when I do not connect my thoughts and feelings to what I experience.

God gives me this peace when I choose to trust his Word. Like it says in the Philippians 4. 6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Where you started up in life does not have to determine where you end!

No matter where you came from in life, no matter what you have done, no matter what others have done to you... If you take a chance... then it will not determine where you end in this life.

Chapter 1

God is gracious

My name Jeanette, comes from the name John, and has the meaning God is gracious. I am so glad that my mom selected just that name for me, because my name reflects how God has been in my life. From my birth I have always had unusual circumstances that could shape me into a victim of what I had experienced, and as a result of my circumstances, I had also acquired my own patterns of behavior that had created problems for my life.

Did you know that God seeks us first? He loves us so much that all he want is for us to come to him and accept his love. Like it says in Romans 5.8. "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 5.8.

**"But God demonstrates
His own love for us in
This: While we were still
Sinners, Christ died for
us."**



What... I do not understand what you are talking about, you might think, and I understand you completely. I did not either understand what people were talking about before I got saved. It was like they had their own language that only they understood. It really made me so confused. Why should I say yes to something I did not understand, or why be connected to something that I did not connect to right away?

The thought of God did not leave my mind. I was thinking about who God was, if he exists and if he did, what my part would be to that. For a whole year this reflection was constantly going on in my mind. I started reading in Genesis the first chapter to learn more about him. Back then I believe I had not been reading any books through, but I knew you always started at the beginning reading a book. Well, you do not have to do that with the bible.... So Genesis was to me pretty hard reading. I did not understand what it was all about.

But you know God kept calling my name, and whisper to my heart. For a whole year He continue to do that, and finally, I said YES.

It happened in the summer of 1987. Long time ago, I know, but it is as real to me like it happened yesterday. My family was on a camping trip with lots of other families. The place was in Sweden on an island called Ø-land. The campground had Christian tent meetings at night, and everybody at the camp attended. Me too. Well, to be honest, I attended just in case I would see any handsome boys. I did not get to see the boys, because the meeting had an atmosphere of The Holy Spirit. (Remember I will tell you about him later if you do not know him). I recognized the whispering voice. I had been hearing it in my heart for a year.

The man leading the meeting told about John 3.16. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life".

John 3.16.

**"For God so loved the world
That he gave his one and
only Son, that whoever
believes in him shall not
perish but have eternal
life."**



I must be honest with you, I did not understand back then what the John 3.16 was all about, nor did I get or understand what the man on the platform where talking about. But I did recognize the voice in my heart telling me that this is what you have been searching for. So I said YES in my heart to accept Jesus Christ as my savior.

Do you remember that I told you in the beginning of this book that this is me telling my story? You might not experience things the way I did. But I know one thing, and that is that God always seeks us first, and that we just can say YES to his calling. He loves us just as we are, and he do not want us to change before accepting him.

So, if you do not know him... Take a chance.... He loves you, and would love to get to know you. Why not just accept him... and say YES.

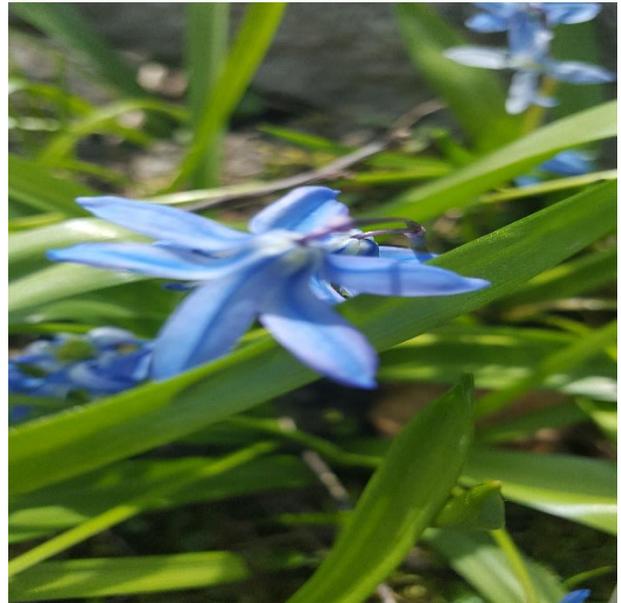
Chapter 2 **The new life**

Most of us judge our self so hard, and we also approve others to judge us. It is like we feel we have to compensate for all the bad things we have done, and think we have done. God is not like that. He says that when we accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and savior we are forgiven. No matter what we have done, who we have become or what we, or others think about us. It is no condemnation for those who believe in Jesus Christ. To us this means that whatever we have done or do, we can come to Jesus and ask for his forgiveness, and we will then be forgiven, but we must remember to forgive ourselves too.

Then you might think, but what if I continue to do bad stuff, or if I cannot change? Well, then I can tell you that the bible has a solution for that too. There is a difference between not wanting to change, and not being able to change. If you do not want to stop doing what is bad for you and others, then it is best that you pray for the will to wanting to change. And God is faithful, he will give you the will and strength to change. If you have the problem that you cannot help yourself quit doing bad things, then you also can pray. Just pray that he will help you, and continue to pray about it until you have overcome your problem.

Romans 8.1.

**“Therefore, there is
now no
condemnation for
those who are in
Christ Jesus”**



I try to take good care of my car. I use the right fuel, make sure everything is working, and if not, then I go and fix it. It is also important for you to take care of your new life. Like you fill the right fuel on the car, you have to fill your mind, spirit and soul with the right stuff. Be with good people that makes you feel good, do things that makes you happy, find some favorite bible verses and memories them. Pray for all the things you want the Lord to help you with and talk to him about everything.

Chapter 3

The Holy Spirit

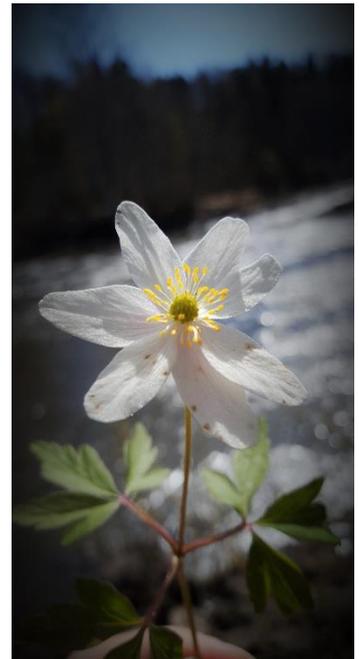
You may have heard about the Trinity. God the Father, Jesus, the son and the Holy Spirit. In Matthew chapter 3, Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist. After baptism comes the Holy Spirit upon him like a dove. We read this in Matthew 3.16. “As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him”. You may have heard about Pentecost. That is when The Holy Spirit came to the disciples. We can read about this in Acts 2.1-4 “When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”

What do this have to do with us today? It means that we do not have to manage things on our own. We have a helper, a guider and a consular. Actually the best one. If we let him, The Holy Spirit, he will give us all the help we need in TheEveryDay situations. It does not mean that we will have all we desire, but he will give us all we need to become the best version of our self.

John 14.16. “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth.

The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans;

I will come to you.”



I just love this bible verse. When I was 8 years old, I was put in foster care. I felt like my whole life where falling apart, and that I had lost everything that was precious to me. I did not have a lot, but all my surroundings where changed, and the only thing I got to take with me was my blue school backpack with the few belongings that I owned. I felt so empty inside. And this emptiness disappeared the moment I got to know The Holy Spirit as my best friend. He never leaves me, and he always gives me the best advice when I need him to.

You might wonder about me telling you that The Holy Spirit is my best friend. What a strange thing to say and do, you might think. Well, as human beings we all disappoint each other from time to time, and sometimes our best friends and family can become our worst enemy. Life can be quite good and nice for many people, but for a lot of others it can be challenges after challenges, and in all the above I have found that my inner security is based on my conversation with The Holy Spirit. When I need peace, I pray; fill my spirit with peace, when I need love and strength I do the same. When I would not or cannot forgive, I ask for help and he gives me the grace to forget and forgive. When I do not understand my circumstances, I pray; help me not to ask WHY, but help me trust that you will get me through this. This is my walk with my favorite and very best friend. You can also have your own walk with him.

And when I do not know what to pray, I pray in another language. It is like you know French without taking the classes. It is called speaking in other tongues. You get this language by asking God to give it to you, and then your mouth will start to pronounce a different language. I told earlier about how the apostles in the bible got it, at Pentecost;

Acts 2.1-4

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”



After you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and savior, you can get the gift of talking in other tongues. It is a gift; you do not have to do anything other than receive it to get it.

When I got saved several years ago, I wanted to make a statement that my life was changed, my pastor at that time baptized me. To baptize for me means to fully put your body under water to state that you wash away the old life, and resurrect in the new life in Jesus Christ. Like I told you about Jesus earlier when John baptized him. It was a really good experience to me. My life started a new era. There are lots of churches that practice this all around the world. If you would like to get baptized then I advise you to talk to some Christians and they will help you to get baptized.

Chapter 4

How to live as a Christian

I remember a funny story from my work. I was asking one of my new colleagues in the lunch break; “How is everything?” And she replayed; “Well, pretty good, if it had not been for all the people here”. We both had a laugh at the conversation knowing that the definition people also included our own thinking and reactions.

So often I would have loved to have a manual in life telling me every second of the day, now you can do this, now it is wise to not do this. Then I could blame the manual if my life did not work out the way I wanted, or I could praise it if my life went amazingly well. I think we both know that such a manual does not exist. In life there are certain rules to follow in different countries or social groups. Written rules, and no written rules. We call it the basic rules for how to live a good and healthy life. Eat well and your body will be healthy, sleep enough, exercise, etc.

The Christian life has also some basic rules;

1. **Seek God first ☺**
Matthew 6.33 “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well”
2. **You are saved by grace ☺ Accept it ☺**
Ephesians 2.8 “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God”
3. **Live with your mind on today, and Make your new life fun living ☺**
Philippians 4.4-7 “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”



When we build a house, we have to have a good foundation, if not, the house will fall apart. ***That is why it is important that you build your Christian life on a good foundation; You are saved by grace, God loves you no matter what, and all the promises in the bible are yours through Jesus Christ.***

Chapter 5

What when I get persecuted

I am not sure about how you are, but I really like that most people like me. I find it quite hard when I am not accepted, or people do not like me for who I am. My life has not been so. Ever since I was born I have had unfortunate circumstances, and no matter how much I tried to get my life to be a regular A-4 life without major complications, it never happened. My circumstances tried hard to change who I was and to get me to be inferior. I had to be what others thought I was going to be. It was never accepted to be just me. When I accepted Jesus as my savior this did not stop, and people often criticized what I did, made false accusations and banned me from the social life in churches and elsewhere in other social settings.

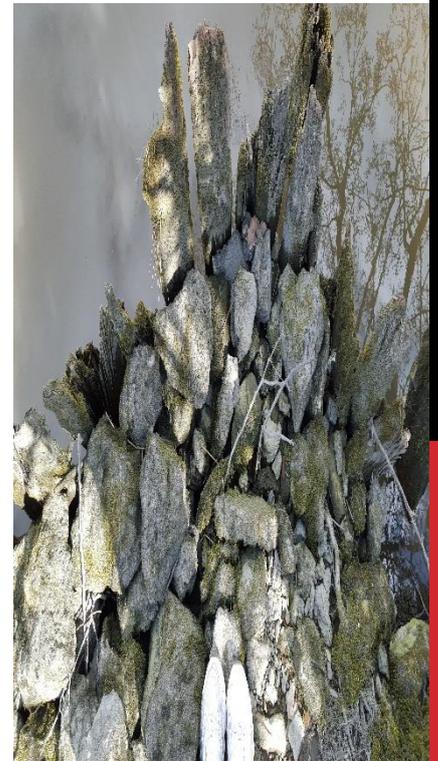
Remember I told you that I am telling my story, and that you might experience things differently. I tell my story because God has always been faithful, when something bad has happened, he always closed that door and opened a new and better door. For all the things I have lost, he has given me the double back. Do not get disappointed or discouraged if you experience persecution on who you are or that you are a Christian. God has promised us two things; he will always be with us, and that we will experience persecution when we follow him. But be not afraid, the blessings he gives outweigh all the negative we experience.

Romans 8:31-39

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”



Persecution can occur both if we are Christians or not. There is never a reason to persecute others, and those who choose to do this, make mistakes. Regardless of how you experience it, who it comes from, or how / why, know that when you surrender everything that happens to God, He has promised you that he will always be with you. Do not be afraid because the people around you do not accept who you are or what you do.

There are plenty of people in this world who will accept you for who you are and that you have chosen to become a Christian. Choose away that which is not good for you in your life and open new doors for the circumstances that accepts you and what you do. If you do not quit pushing forward to what is good for you, then you will get a breakthrough. Sometimes it can happen right away, and sometimes it can take a while. My best breakthroughs as a Christian, are the ones that have taken years to stand in faith that God will deliver me from. Why, because he has been faithful to me during my trials, both with my own struggling and with me getting strong enough to stand against the circumstances. The best thing about it, is that he has done all I could not do, I just had to trust and believe that he would.

Chapter 6 **God is faithful**

Do you remember that I said that my name means God is gracious? All my life I have known him to be faithful and always take such good care of me. I have had more bad circumstances than most people, but God has lifted them all of me, and healed me emotionally. When I had dedicated myself to wrong thought patterns and behavior patterns, he saw me, and through his grace gave me guidance to how I could think and act in order to become the best version of me. His beautiful Holy Spirit has guided me and still do in TheEveryDay life. This is a good life, and I recommend it to everybody. It does not mean that you will not experience difficulties or that you become perfect. There is no such thing as perfect in Gods kingdom, there is only Grace. Grace to be who you are, and he will do the rest if you ask him too.

Maybe you think this sounds too easy or like a fairytale? My life is a testimony that life is not easy, and certainly not a fairytale. If it had been, then I would not have been so secure to tell you that through it all, you can and will have a different life. When you have nothing, have the label that most people do not want to be around, (it can be any label that is not popular with your soundings, it does not have to be that you are doing so much wrong stuff, just the label unpopular can be an example). That effects your life and who you become, but I know when we give who we are and what we experience to Jesus, things change.

In one of my worst period in life, God showed me that Jesus greatest victory was at the cross. To the world it looked like he had failed, beaten, bloody, taken from all his glory, and crucified. And still, the world's biggest victory, and ours. I have learned that my biggest victories in life are when all my surroundings look terrible, people see my weaknesses, my mistakes, all that I am struggling with, and if I give this to Jesus, he is making Gold out of my ashes.

Do not be afraid if your life is not like you want it to be. Give it to Jesus. He has done it for so many others; made Gold out of ashes, He will also do it for you if you let him. Let him love you and change your life.

HOW TO GET SAVED:

Pray with me:

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, I believe that you are the son of the living God, that you died and resurrected again, so that I can be saved and I receive all the promises that I get through your death and resurrection in Jesus name. Amen.

You are now a Christian, and you are as the bible say; a born again. Be blessed in starting your new life!

It is good for us to surround ourselves with people who build us up and can guide us in life. If you do not have them in your life, try to outreach to other good Christians who can give you guidance, support, but most of all good social connections in your life.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, or just want to say Hi ☺



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