**TEACHING TO OBEY**

**What Does the Bible Say About Obedience?**

**Adam’s Disobedience vs. Jesus’ Obedience**

1. What is the consequence of Adam’s disobedience? (Ge 2:16-17, 3:11, 3:23-24)
2. Who can have the right to the tree of life? (Rev 22:14, NKJV)
3. How does Christ’s obedience reverse the result of Adam’s disobedience? (Ro 5:19, Heb 5:8-9)

**Application:** 1) What shall you do with your disobedient life in the past and present?

2) How can you live a life of obedience in order to taste the full life on earth?

**The Place of Obedience in the Beginnings of the OT**

1. How did Noah become the new father of human race? (Ge 6:22; Heb 11:7)
2. How did Abraham become the father of many nations? (Heb 11:8; Ge 22:16-18) How did God’s blessing continue for Isaac? (Ge 26:3-5)
3. What did God tell the Israelites to do in order to make them his firstborn son? (Ex 19:5)
4. What did God do when Moses and his people obeyed Him? (Ex 40:16,34; Lev 9:23-24) What did God do when the Israelites disobeyed him in the wilderness? (Josh 5:6)
5. What were the conditions of God’s blessing and curse in the land of Canaan? (Deut 11:26-28)
6. What instruction did God give to Joshua, the leader after Moses? (Josh 1:6-9)

**Application**: What kind of leaders does God use to save his people?

**King Saul vs. King David**

1. What did God demand from King Saul through Prophet Samuel? (1Sa 10:8, 13:8-14) What kind of obedience did God want from him? (1Sa 15:3,8,9,13, 17-23) What was the consequence of his partial obedience? (1Sa 15:26)
2. What kind of king did God seek after? (1Sa 13:14) How was David’s heart revealed in obedience? (1Sa 17:45-47, 23:1-6, 30:7-8; 2Sa 5:17-20,22-25) What did David find about God? (Ps 40:6-8)

**Application:** What kind of leaders does God seek after?

**Benefits of Obedience**

1. What did God promise when the Israelites would obey him? (Jer 7:22-23)
2. What was the key element in Jesus’ relationship with his Father God? (Heb 10:9, Jn 5:30, 10:18)
3. Who can enter the kingdom of God? (Mt 7:21) What is the spiritual character of true obedience? (Jn 14:15-16, 21,23) What is the ultimate gift when we obey Jesus in love?

**Application**: Write down every spiritual blessing that obedience opens the door to.

**Living Daily in His Commandments**

1. How can we live daily in Jesus’ love and presence? (Jn 15:10)
2. How can we live daily in and by the power of the Holy Spirit? (Ac 5:32, 29)
3. What is the mission for Jesus’ disciples? (Ro 1:5, 16:26, 15:18)

**Application**: Review how we can live daily in his commandments.

**Listening to and Obeying the Word**

1. Why is it important to not only listen to but also to obey the word? (Jm 1:22-25)
2. What does Peter say about obedience? (1Pe 1:2, 14-15) How can we purify our souls? (1Pe 1:22)
3. According to John, what is the certificate of Christian character? (1Jn 2:4, 3:18-19, 22)
4. How can we reveal our love for God and for people in this world? (1Jn 5:3)

**Review**

1. Review the place of obedience in Scripture, in the mind of God, and in the hearts of His servants.
2. Does obedience take that place in your heart and life? If not, what takes place in yours and what have been the consequences of it?
3. What is the starting point and the goal of our Christian lives?
4. Who can help us to live a life of obedience on earth successfully?

**Christ’s Obedience**

**The Two-Fold Connection**

1. How did Adam’s disobedience affect his physical descendants? (Ro 5:12,19a)
2. How is Jesus the Second/Last Adam? (Ro 5:14b, 1Co 15:44b-49) How can we be united with Him so that we live in and through Him? (Ro 4:23-25, 6:3-5)
3. What are the spiritual blessings for those in Christ? (Ro 5:1-3, 11, Eph 1:3-10)

**Application**: Review the blessings of your faith in Jesus Christ.

**A Deeper Look**

1. What was the cause of Adam’s sin and disobedience? (Ge 3:4-5) What have his descendants inherited from him? (Ro 1:21-23) Describe the power and curse of the sin of disobedience. (Ro 1:24-32) Who are those outside Christ? (Eph 2:1-3)
2. How did Jesus show his heart and joy of living an obedient life to his Father? (Heb 10:9a; Jn 5:30, 10:17-18, 15:10b) How did Jesus show that we could enter into the presence and glory of God? (Jn 1:14,18, 5:19-20) How did he take away our disobedience and replace it with his obedience? (Ga 2:20)

**Application**: Do you truly believe that you are a new creation in Jesus (2Co 5:17), and you have his nature to love and obey God joyfully and thankfully?

**Three Purposes of Christ’s Obedience**

1. What was Jesus’ purpose in living a life of obedience? (Jn 13:12-17, 13:34) What did Apostle Paul tell us to do in 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1? What example did Jesus leave for us to follow? (1Pe 2:21)
2. What was Jesus’ purpose in obeying God to the point of death? (Mk 10:45, Ro 4:25, 1Co 1:30)
3. What is the ultimate goal of Jesus’ obedience in our places? (Ro 5:17-18)

**Application**: Of what do Jesus’ three goals of obedience assure you?

**Discussion in Romans 6**

1. How can we live a life of obedience like Christ? (Ro 6:5-10, Ga 2:20)
2. How can we present ourselves or offer the parts of our body to God as Christ did? (Ro 6:17)
3. What are the benefits of living a life of obedience in and through Christ? (Ro 6:19,21-23)

**Application**: Summarize the connection between the gospel and our life of obedience to God.

**Obedience Alone**

1. What made Jesus the object of the Father’s love? (Jn 10:17-18)
2. What can make us objects of the love of God, of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and of the fellowship with the Holy Spirit? (Jn 14:15-27)

**Application**: How can we show our love for God and belief in God?

**Principles of Christ’s Obedience**

1. Why did Jesus come into the world? (Jn 6:38, Heb 10:9) What relationship with Jesus will we have as we obey God’s will? (Mt 12:50)
2. What was the source of Jesus’ joy and satisfaction? (Ps 40:8, Jn 4:34) What should be the source of our joy? (1Pe 4:13)
3. To what point did Jesus obey God the Father? (Php 2:8) What does God ask from us? (Rev 2:10)
4. What character enabled him to obey God the Father to the point of death? (Php 2:5-8) How can we humble ourselves before God in obedience?
5. On whom did Jesus depend in his obedience? (Jn 5:30,14:10) Who empowers us to obey God? (Ac 1:8)

**Application**: How can we obey God like Jesus?

**God’s Power as the Source of Our Obedience**

1. What does God do in helping us to obey? (Deut 30:6, 8-9; Ezek 36:27) By knowing God’s work in our obedience, what should we do? (Ro 6:13, 12:1)
2. As we obey him by surrendering ourselves into his hands, what will God do for us? (Ro 8:29, 1Jn 3:1-2)

**Application**: Write down the relationship between God’s power and our obedience.

**Christ’s School of Obedience**

**The Necessity of Obedience (Heb 5:8-9)**

1. What made Jesus perfect to be our Great High Priest and the author of our salvation? Why was it necessary for Jesus to learn obedience, especially from what he suffered?
2. Whom does Jesus save? What is the very essence of salvation?
3. In a world where disobedience reigns in death, who restores the disobedient into the obedient? How does Jesus teach us obedience that leads us to salvation?

**Application:** 1) Write a reflection on how Jesus has taught you obedience.

2) Do you acknowledge that you have been in Christ’s school of obedience?

**The Teacher**

1. Memorize Hebrews 5:8-9. Why is Jesus qualified to teach us obedience? How did he show his example of obedience to God? (Jn 12:49-50, 5:19-20,30; 8:16; 14:10) How was it possible for Jesus to obey God perfectly?
2. Find the Bible verses where Jesus spoke of his relationship with the Father as parallel to our relationship with Him. (Jn 15:9-10,15) Through the parallel what does Jesus teach us about how it is possible for us to live a life of full/perfect obedience?
3. From whom and how can we receive our orders and instructions from God? (Mt 11:28, Jer 7:23, Jn 15:5; 1Thess 5:17) Why is it important for us to constantly remain in God’s presence if we are to constantly obey his commands?

**Application**: Why do many Christians find their life directions and lessons from godly people rather than directly from God and the Bible? Why is it dangerous? (1Co 2:5)

**The Textbook**

1. While he learned obedience, what textbook did Jesus use? (Mt 4:4,7,10) What was the frame of reference with which he opened his gospel preaching? (Lk 4:17-21) What was the light in which he accepted all suffering and even gave himself to death? (Lk 24:46)
2. How could Jesus know when each portion was to be taken up and carried out? (Isa 50:4-5)
3. While studying the Bible, how can we know about what God’s will, plan and path is for us? (Jn 14:26) How can we be transformed? (Heb 4:12; Ro 12:2) How can we be empowered to obey the word of God? (Ac 1:8a)

**Application**: In your Bible study and life of obedience, who is or should be your Bible teacher?

**The Student**

1. What should Jesus’ student know about Jesus? (Jn 13:1) What relationship should Jesus’ student have with Jesus? (Jn 14:15; 21:15,16,17a, 14:1, 11:25-26, 40)
2. What does Jesus, the Teacher, demand his disciples to do? (Mk 8:34-35; Jn 13:12-17)
3. What is Jesus’ promise to his student? (Jn 14:12-14)

**Application**: Describe how you have grown as Jesus’ student in his school of obedience.

**Morning Prayer**

**Read the Bible**

1. To what do the Scriptures point us? (Jn 5:39) How does it happen? (Jn 14:26) What, then, should be our intention in reading the word of God? (Lk 6:46-48; 11:28)
2. What then should we ask from early in the morning while reading the Bible? (Lk 11:13) How can we live daily by the word of God not by our sinful desires? (Ga 5:16-17; Heb 3:7-8)
3. What desires should we have in reading the Bible? (Ps 119:105; Ro 12:1-2; Eph 2:8; Isa 55:8-11)

**Application**: When can reading the Scripture become actually a hindrance or head knowledge instead of leading us to Jesus?

**Communion with God**

1. What was Moses’ prayer like in Exodus 33:9-17? Why was God’s presence absolutely important to Moses? (Ex 33:14-15) How can we have the assurance that God is looking at you in love, listening to you, and working in you?
2. Why is our daily communion with God absolutely necessary for our daily obedience to Him? (Jn 5:19, 15:4-5; Php 4:13) When should our daily communion with God begin each day? (Ps 5:3)

**Application**: What happens when we try to obey God’s will without communion with Him?

**Our Complete Surrender to God and Assurance in Prayer**

1. When and how can you renew your heart and mind in order to absolutely obey God’s will daily? (Ps 37:7a; Mk 1:35,38; Ro 12:1-2)
2. When and how should you pray for a daily holy walk? When and how can we renew his grace and strength each day?
3. As we surrender ourselves fully to God, what assurance and confidence does the Holy Spirit give to us? (Lk 3:21-22; Ro 8:15-17; Jn 14:12-14)

**Application**: What blessings does the time spent with the triune God in our absolute surrender in the morning bring to us?

**Consecrated Intercession**

1. For whom did Jesus pray? (Jn 17) And what is Jesus doing now? (Heb 7:25) As a royal priesthood for whom should we pray? (1Pe 2:9)
2. What makes our intercession for individual men and women possible? (2Co 5:20)
3. What can be the result of our intercessory prayer? (Jm 5:20) Find Apostle Paul’s examples of intercessory prayer. (Eph 1:17-23, 3:14-19; Php 1:9-11)

**Application**: Summarize the absolute necessity of prayer in our daily life of obedience to God.

**Entering the Life of Full Obedience**

**Confession and Cleansing**

1. How does the power of sin hinder us from approaching God and obeying His law? (Ro 7:17-24) What does Apostle Paul find in Jesus? (Ro 7:25, 8:1) What should we do daily before we enter into communion with God? (Jer 3:12-14; 1Jn 1:9; Jm 5:16)
2. Why does our heart and conscience need to be cleansed daily? (Tit 1:15) Who can do it? (Heb 10:22, 9:14)
3. Now since the power of sin in us is broken and our heart and conscience is cleansed, what privileges do we daily have? (Ro 8:35a; Heb 4:16; Lk 1:74-75)

**Application**: Confess the very sin that has hindered you from obeying God fully.

**Self-love**

1. What does the Bible say people without God (our old self) love? (2Tim3:1-5; Col 3:5-9)
2. What shall we do daily with our old self (self-love)? (Ro 6:8-14, 8:9-14) What are the common sins we need to put to death? (1Thess 4:13; 1Ti 6:10; 1Jn 2:16; Eph 5:3)
3. Now knowing that we were dead to sin (our old self), how can we put on the new self daily? (Col 3:9-10, Ga 2:20)

**Application**: How have you lived a life led by the Spirit, not by the flesh?

**Loving God and Others with All Our Beings**

1. What is your new identity in Christ? (2Co 5:17) How can we keep growing in our new identity? (Jn 15:5,10) How can we remain in his love? (Jn 15:12; Mt 22:36-40, Jn 13:34)
2. What does genuine and godly love look like? (1Co 13:4-8a)

**Application**: What does your life of love look like?

**Is It Possible to Live a Life of Full Obedience?**

1. How should we understand it when we (born-again Christians) sin (disobey) involuntarily? (Ezk 36:26; Mt 26:41) How does God deal with our involuntary sins? (Ro 7:14-8:1)
2. Where can we find the deliverance and help from our sinful nature? (Ro 8:2-17) How can our heart and conscience be cleansed from the defilement caused by our involuntary sins? (Heb 10:22, 9:14)
3. What is your thought on “full obedience”? Does it mean to obey all the commands of the Bible in full perfection?
4. What does our Father in heaven say in this matter to those in the New Covenant relationship with Him? (Jer 31:33-34, 32:39-40; 1Jn 3:19-24)

**Application**: By knowing that the Holy Spirit gives us power to obey God’s commands which our will power can’t fully obey and that Jesus’ blood cleanses our heart from our involuntary sins, will you believe that you can live a life of full obedience and rejoice in doing his will? (Ps 40:8)

**Obedience by Having Jesus in Us; His Mind and Attitude**

1. Why was King David known as a man after God’s own heart? (Ac 13:22) How could Apostle Paul keep shepherding the Philippian Christians while in a prison? (Php 1:8)
2. While Apostle Paul was giving them several commands of the Lord Jesus (Php 2:1-4), what did he tell them to have? (Php 2:5-8) How can we have Jesus’ mind?
3. As we live a life of full obedience in Christ, what happens to us? (2Co 3:18)

**Application**: Reflect on how we can live a life of full obedience in Christ.

**The Obedience of Faith**

**Vision of Faith That Prepares Us to Obey (I See It)**

1. According to Hebrews 11:8, how could Abraham go out, even though he did not know where he was going? What is the Promised Land for us where God promises to meet and bless us, and which we will inherit? (Ezek 36:26-27)
2. In the Promised Land of obedience, how does God endeavor to cause and enable you to obey?
3. In order to obey God like Abraham, what shall we do? (Ro 4:20-21; Php 2:12-13)

**Application**: What enables us to see God’s Land of Promise?

**Faith’s Desire (I Desire It)**

1. According to Hebrews 11:15-16, what did Abraham long for? What should you thirst and hunger for? (Mt 5:6; Ps 42:1-2)
2. What precedes having faith in God? (Ps 73:25; Jn 6:35, 7:37; Rev 21:6) What is your desire that you should give up? (Jn 4:13-14)
3. How can the desire for God be awakened? (Eph 1:17-19; Ro 8:15-17; Hab 3:17-19)

**Application**: How does your desire for God enable you to put your trust in Him?

**Expectant Faith (I Expect It)**

1. How can your desire grow into expectation? (Heb 11:1) What do we expect from God by faith? (1Pe 1:3-6; Eph 1:3-10)
2. What hinders you from being sure that God’s blessings are for you, and from living a life of full obedience? (Jm 1:5-8; Eph 3:20)
3. How can you set your heart and hope on what God promised to you? (Sing “My hope is built on nothing less”; Ps 25:1-11)

**Application**: Share your joy when you are sure that every spiritual blessing in Christ is yours.

**Accepting in Faith (I Accept It)**

1. How can your expectation grow into acceptance? (Mk 11:24; Jn 1:12, 3:16; Eph 1:7)
2. What hinders you from accepting the blessings of living a life of full obedience? (Mk 9:21-23; Jm 1:5-8; 1Jn 1:9; Isa 55:8-9)
3. How have God and his servants encouraged you to accept the blessings of living a life of full obedience? (Jn 14:21,23; 2Ti 3:10-11,15)

**Application**: Share your struggles in accepting God’s love, promises and blessings of living in obedience.

**Trusting Jesus Christ for Everything (I Trust Christ for It)**

1. As we have learned of the life of obedience, do you have any questions, difficulties, and fears arising for which you cannot find answers?
2. Where can we find the answers of all of these? (Jn 14:1,6,13; 2Co 1:20; Mt 28:20b; Mk 16:20) Who can help us to obey God’s commandments? (Ezek 36:26-28; Heb 7:24-25) As Jesus is the answer and the Holy Spirit helps us live a blessed life of obedience, what should we do? (Heb 12:2; Php 2:12-13)

**Application**: Summarize the relationship between faith and obedience.

**More About Obedience**

**Learning to Know and Do God’s Will**

1. What should proceed before we seek to know God’s will? (Mt 5:8; Isa 55:8-9; Jn 5:30, 7:17a)
2. As we choose to obey God’s will, what should we do next? (Ps 119:33-35; Eph 1:9,16b-18)
3. As we know God’s will, what should we do first before we obey his will? (Ps 139:23-24,10)

**Application**: Review how your attitude has been in seeking and choosing and doing God’s will.

**Obedience Even to Death**

1. Do you consider “obedience even to death” as a burden or a privilege?
2. When and how were Jesus’ final deliverance from sin, temptations, the world and his body, and his victory over their power completed? (Jn 19:30; Lk 23:46) What led Jesus to the fullness of His new life and glory?
3. How does the believer share with Jesus his deliverance and victory? (Ro 6:1-6; 7:4, 8:10; Ga 6:14) While he knows his spiritual new life and victory through Jesus, from whom can the believer receive help against self and self-will? (Ro 8:5-17) How did the Spirit help Apostle Paul? (2Co 4:10; Php 1:21)

**Application**: Based on Philippians 2:5-8, who is the example we are to follow in order to live a life of full obedience? How can we do so?

**The Voice of Conscience**

1. When your conscience has conflicts with the cultural influence and educational knowledge that are accepted as right, what shall you do?
2. What does the blood of Christ Jesus do for believers’ consciences? (Heb 9:14) What is the relationship between believers’ consciences and the Holy Spirit? (Ro 9:1)
3. By knowing the work of the Holy Spirit in your conscience, how can you maintain a good conscience before God and live a life of full obedience? (1Co 10:27-31)

**Application**: Now what will you do with the voice of your conscience? Do you believe that when you obey your good conscience you obey God’s will?

**Obedience of the Law vs. Obedience of the Gospel**

1. As we have learned about obedience to God’s commands, what danger can Christians fall into? (Ro 6:14, 7:3,6, 8:15)
2. What does the law demand from us and promise us? (Deut 28:1,2,15; Ga 3:10-12) What motivates us to do our best in keeping the law? (Ex 20:2, 24:3,7,17) What are the limitations of the law? (Ro 8:3a) What is the purpose of the law? (Ro 5:20; Ga 3:23-25)
3. What does the gospel promise? (Jn 3:16; Eph 2:8-9) What does grace point us to and offer for us? (Ro 7:24, 8:1; Ac 2:38-39; Heb 10:15-17; Php 1:6, 2:13; Heb 5:8-9)

**Application**: Is your life of obedience a legal one or evangelical one?

**The Obedience of Love**

1. Who is Jesus and what has he done, is he doing and will he do for you whom you are told to obey? Do you love Jesus? (2Co 5:14-15)
2. What is the relationship between our loving obedience and His divine love and blessing? (Jn 14:15-16, 21, 23)
3. In John 15, what did Jesus teach us as the way to enjoyment of His love? (Jn 15:5, 10-11,12-14) When we obey Jesus in response to his love (1Jn 4:10), what do we feel about his commandments? (1Jn 5:3)

**Application**: If you have obeyed Jesus’ commandments out of a sense of duty, renew his love until his love compels you to love Him back.

**Obeying His Final Command**

**Accepting His Command**

1. What is our Lord Jesus Christ’s final command and promise? (Mt 28:18-20; Mk 16:15-16; Jn 17:18; Ac 1:8) What does Jesus have in his mind in giving it?
2. Why have many Christians disobeyed Jesus’ final command?
3. How could Jesus’ first disciples accept his final command so easily and so heartily? (Jn 6:67-69; Mk 8:29; Ac 1:2-5,8) How could Apostle Paul accept and obey Jesus’ Great Commission with his whole heart and life? (Ac 9:15-16, 20:24; 1Ti 1:15-16; Php 1:21; 3:10-11)

**Application**: In order to help you accept Jesus’ Great Commission wholeheartedly as your one life purpose, what has He done for you and in you? Now accept the Great Commission with your whole heart.

**Place Yourself at the Disposal of Jesus Christ**

1. Read Matthew 28:19-20 again. Before you know what your work may be, and before you feel any special desire, call and ability, of what should you be aware? (20b) As Jesus Christ, the Chief Shepherd, is with you always, what should be your attitude toward Him?
2. As you place yourself at His disposal, are you willing to receive His guidance and training and let Him use you according to His will and pleasure?
3. At the disposal of whom should you put yourself? (Ac 1:8)

**Application**: How often do you believe and notice that you are making disciples in the presence of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit?

**Acting on Your Vow of Obedience**

1. Who should be our focus in making Jesus’ disciples? (Mt 28:18, 20b; Col 3:23; Heb 4:16) What confidence do Christ’s power in heaven and Christ’s presence on earth give you?
2. As you make Jesus’ disciples in his presence anywhere, how does your participation in making disciples enable you to grow in his image? (Php 1:8; 2Pe 3:18)
3. Where and when will you begin obeying Jesus’ Great Commission? (Ac 1:8)

**Application**: As you obey Jesus’ Great Command and Great Commission, recall how you have grown and envision how you will grow to be like Him.