

LIFE IN THE KINGDOM

9. OBEDIENCE

Obedience occurs deep in the heart and is the result of faith which is the determination to trust in the love and absolute goodness of our God and Eternal Father.

Obedience is nothing other than deciding to accept the reign of Jesus in our lives, submitting ourselves to Him and aligning ourselves with His justice to do His will here on Earth; just as it is done in Heaven.

Obedience involves dying to my criteria, to my own justice and my concept of good and bad; which means trusting Him, following His instructions and manifesting His will through my actions.

»***“If you love me, obey my commandments.***

Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them.

John 14:15,21 NLT

Obedience is God's love language and it is the only way we can express our love to Him because it is the way He decided for us to love Him.

Free will is the freedom to choose whether we love God or not. It is based on obedience because if we decide to love Him, it means that we are willing to obey Him. Therefore, the opposite is disobedience and it is nothing other than not trusting Him, living without faith and not loving Him.

“Now listen! Today I am giving you a choice between life and death, between prosperity and disaster. For I command you this day to love the Lord your God and to keep his commands, decrees, and regulations by walking in his ways. If you do this, you will live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you and the land you are about to enter and occupy.

“Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! 20 You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. This[a] is the key to your life. And if you love and obey the Lord, you will live long in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.”

Deuteronomy 30:15-16,19-20 NLT



Blessings or curses are not something that God chooses for us at His own discretion. In reality these are the result of us obeying or not; of dwelling in His love and authority or simply not doing so.

The entire Bible tells us about this and even tells us the examples of men, women and even entire communities who obeyed or disobeyed. His actual words are, “today I have given you the choice between life or death”. **And being away from His love is literally being dead.** That means being separated from His abundant life, His good will, His good plan for us; is living without faith and without believing in Him. However it is important that we can understand and assume the responsibility that corresponds to us, since it is not God's decision but ours. **It is about the decision that each of us can make daily: to love or not to love, to believe or not to believe, to trust or not to trust. This manifests and translates into obeying or disobeying.**

»“You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell[a] is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. 14 But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.

Matthew 7:13-14 NLT

Being in the Kingdom is not the result of many choices. **Being in the Kingdom implies a single choice and that is to obey and to love our Eternal Father.** By obeying His Word, we make Jesus the King and Lord of our lives, and that is the only way to enjoy His Kingdom and His Justice.

**Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one can come to the Father except through me.**

John 14:6 NLT

Study Questions

1. According to the reading, write in your agenda or notebook how you would define the meaning of loving God in relation to obedience.
2. Take a moment to meditate on what situations or areas of your life where you have chosen to carry out your own criteria instead of dying to your way of thinking and loving your King through your obedience.
3. Make a list of those things, small or large, in which you are going to make the decision to take action steps to align yourself with the Kingdom of God and live according to His Word.

Remember we are all in the process of growth, change and learning to love God more with our obedience. Enjoy the process and remain with a willing heart; open to receive what He shows you because He is your best ally and wants to see you live His good, pleasant and perfect will for your life!

Don't wait for tomorrow and start today!