



The Discipleship Project of Horizon Central

Level #1 Series #3 Study #6

Topic: Obedience

1. What thoughts or emotions do you have when you hear the words “obey” or “obedience”?
2. What is the hardest part of obeying?
3. Obedience is carrying out the word and will of another person. For the Christian that especially means the will of God. In both the Old and New Testaments the word ‘obey’ is related to the idea of hearing. Obedience is a positive, active response to what a person hears. God summons people to active obedience to His revelation. Man's failure to obey God results in judgment. (**Genesis 2:15-17; Genesis 3:1-7, 16-19; Exodus 19:3-7; Numbers 20: 7-12; Deuteronomy 21:18-21; Deuteronomy 28:1-2**)
4. Obedience brings God pleasure. Samuel emphasized that God's pleasure was not in sacrifice but in obedience. (**1 Samuel 15:22-23**).
5. John MacArthur writes, *“Our obedience does not merit salvation, of course. But genuine conversion to Christ inevitably produces obedience. Therefore, while obedience is never a condition for salvation, it is nonetheless always salvation's fruit. That is why Scripture speaks of obedience as an essential evidence of true Christianity.”*  
(**1 John 2:4-6; 3 John 11; Ephesians 2:8-10**)
6. God has called us to obey Him. (**Romans 1:5; 1 Peter 1:13-16**) Why? (**John 15:10-14; Philippians 2:5-8, 14-16**)
7. Do we (or should we) obey out of love – or out of duty for the Lord?  
(**Luke 17:7-10; John 14:15, 21; John 15:10-14**)
8. Christian obedience also includes that of children to their parents (**Luke 2:51; Ephesians 6:1-3**); of servants to their masters (**Titus 2:9-10; Colossians 3:22-24; Ephesians 6:5-8**); proper respect to civil authority (**Matthew 22:21; Romans 13:1-2**); also proper recognition of the authority of the church, or the obligations of Christian fellowship (**Matthew 18:17; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Hebrews 13:17**).
9. It’s by the working of the Holy Spirit inside of us that we are able to obey in the first place.  
(**Philippians 2:12-13; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**)
10. Now that we’ve gone through this study, how might you sum up a biblical view of obedience?
11. What long term effects do you imagine a biblical form of obedience will produce in our lives?