

We will OBEY

September 19, 2021

INTRODUCTION

I want to suggest to us from God's Word this morning, that God has a love language. And His love language is *obedience*. You want to show God that you love Him? Obey Him. It really is that simple.

¹⁵ "If you love me, keep my commands. 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. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

²² Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, "But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?"

²³ Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me."

John 14:15-24

It's interesting the word in the Greek for "keep" My commands in both of these verse means to guard. Figuratively then it is this idea that I am not obeying because I have to, or in a sloppy manner, or half-hearted kind of way.

No. There is this vigilance about it. There is a soldier mentality about it. We will keep this command. Even though our flesh may be coming against us. Even though this world's philosophies may be coming against this. We will FIGHT to make sure this command is kept. That it's obeyed. That we teach it to our children. That we ourselves do not neglect the obedience to the commands of Jesus.

And what's so beautiful in this larger passage of John 14, 15, and 16, is that Jesus goes on to describe that when we choose to walk in simple, daily obedience that is driven by love—again not fear, not legalism, not spiritual pride, not trying to look good, not so that God will bless my marriage or finances or answer my prayers—but love. When we walk in simple, daily obedience motivated by love—He says, you will have so many blessings. Look at these together with me:

- You will be loved by the Father and the Son (14:21b)
- The Father and the Son will come and dwell in you (14:23)
- You will bear much spiritual fruit (15:4, 7)
- You will receive answered prayer (15:7)
- You will have supernatural joy (15:11)
- Jesus will reveal Himself to you (14:21c)

This is not a physical revealing of Himself to you. This is a revealing of His heart, His mind, His thoughts, His plans, His burdens, His joys. He is sharing of Himself with you.

In other words, intimacy.

Jesus would go on to say “If you will obey, I will call you My friends, not My servants.” Look at 15:14:

¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

If you will obey Me. If you will do what I command. Then I will you My friends, not My servants. Why? What's the difference? Because a servant doesn't know what his master is thinking. He only knows what he's supposed to do.

Church, I think so many of us are still servants, not friends. We only know what we're supposed to do. But we don't know His heart.

I've been thinking a lot this week about what Jesus said of Himself in John 14:31:

I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

That's powerful, isn't it? Jesus did exactly what the Father commanded Him to do.

And I've been praying this over my heart this week. Jesus, help me to do exactly what you are commanding me to do.

- Which has led me to a couple things:
- What is He commanding me to do?
- What area of my life am I holding back?
- What area in my life have I given up on? I've stopped fighting.
- Etc.

What would happen if every time we were faced with temptation, we simply said, “Jesus... I love You more.”

Where and how is your love for Jesus divided right now?

Take a moment and write down any area that He brings reveals to you and then take this moment to simply say, “Jesus... I love You more”