

Obedience: The Key to knowing God's will

The importance of obedience cannot be overemphasized. We are encouraged to discipline children to save them "from spiritual bankruptcy (Proverbs 23:13,14). We are admonished to teach our children the importance of obedience (2 Timothy 2:2).

As a disobedient child becomes a problem, so will the disobedient Christian become a problem to himself, to others, and especially to the Lord if he does not learn to obey in his early Christian experience.

Objective: To know God's will and be completely obedient to Him regardless of your circumstance.

A. Read 1 Samuel 15 (Disobedience of King Saul)

1. What was God's command to Saul through Samuel.
- 2. Describe how Saul rationalized his actions (15:7-9)**
- 3. Was Saul's repentance sincere?**
4. The main principle illustrated in vs 22 is: *Obedience is better than sacrifice.*
5. How do Christians/you rationalize disobedience today?

B. Obedience of Paul (Read Acts 9:1-22)

1. What was God's command to Paul (here called Saul).
- 2. How did he comply?**
3. Why was Paul's obedience so important at this time?
4. How do you think Paul's obedience illustrates the principle in 1 Samuel 15:22?

C. Obedience of Ananias (Read Acts 9:10-22)

1. What was God's command to Ananias?
2. What was Ananias' reaction? Why?
- 3. How did he finally respond?**
4. How does his obedience indirectly influence you?

What specific area of weakness in your life do you need into obedience with Christ?

What steps will you take to become obedient in this area?

Conclusion:

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly (ESV).

Just as there are physical laws that govern our physical lives, so are there spiritual laws that govern our spiritual life. It is only as we are obedient to these laws that we are free.