

Warrior Fellowship - Season 02 Week 05

Obedience Isn't Just Agreeing With God; It's An Action.

"The real thing with obedience is when it gets down in your heart, and you put action to it." – Dr. Kevin Zada

If you love me, you will obey my Commandments. - John 14:15 (NLT)

DISCUSSION:

Mental assent is when you hear something, and you think to yourself, "I agree with that." You can agree mentally, but the real faith and the real thing with obedience is when it gets down in your heart, and you put action to it. The Book of James is really in your face. It almost didn't make it into the Canon. They had certain criteria. James and Jude and a couple of other books did not make it the first time. Eventually, they did because James was legitimately a Book. James was a pastor, and he said, "*You talk about your faith, but I'll show you my faith by what I do.*"

When I was a teenager and not a Christian yet, that hit me hard because I'd hear people talk the talk, but I found out when they'd go to do something, they didn't know what they were talking about. I knew because it wasn't backed by action. When I was in Heaven, I saw that it's all about obedience. Everything up there is about being in submission to our Heavenly Father and the angels. They don't even question. They enjoy obeying God. They just love it, and that's their thing. The Lord may tell you certain things, and you can't just mentally say, okay. He may require you to do something about it.

Anytime God speaks, He's speaking because He has a reason. God doesn't just say something just to say it. There's a follow-through. If He is saying certain things to you, then you better mark it down. He's telling you for a reason, and you need to ask Him how He would like you to implement that. Many people are in the soulish realm, and they like conversation. It makes them feel good to talk to people and interact. We all would love to sit and talk about ourselves for 2 hours to someone, and they just sit there and listen to you. That would be fulfilling to you, but to the other person, you're just talking about yourself, and there's no interaction there.

Many things we do are selfish. If your whole goal is to make someone else have a good day or prosper or help somebody with their health, or their relationship, then you feel good. If you're giving out, then it's benefiting in building up people. You feel good because you're helping someone. That's the way it is in Heaven. God wants us to show action and do something about what we believe.

James says if someone comes to you and says, I need food, I need water, and you say, "Well, Lord bless you, go your way and be well fed and well dressed," that is an abomination because that isn't faith. Faith is, "I want to take care of that for you, and what can I do to help you?" I've gone through tests where I had to give the money I had, and I went without food. I gave the money I needed to pay my bills because the Lord told me to give it to someone. When people see somebody prospering, they don't know

what that person who is prospering had to go through to get to where they are. The Lord will test you, and you must pass your money test.

Where do you think you stand with the Word of God? With obedience? Do you mentally agree with it, or have you by faith, allowed it to take roots deep inside of you?

A TWO-ITEM MENU

God told Moses, *"The people have two choices; they can either serve me or not serve me. They can either obey me or disobey me. Choose you this day, who you're going to serve. If you are going to serve me, you're going to do these things. If you serve me, these things will happen as a result of you serving me, but if you do not, these are the curses that are going to happen."* It was simple; a two-item menu.

God makes it so that obedience is rewarded. He equates obedience to loving Him. He is so passionate about us. He made us in His image and knows the fabric from which we're made. His love is shed abroad in our hearts. He gives us choices to obey Him and knows the love in us, to obey Him. The love that's in us is Him. When we act on that love and obey Him, He knows what it will do to us when we walk in love. When He sees that we do His Commandments, He feels safer with us. He knows our potential is to have complete fellowship with Him all the time. He also knows that it's developed our ability to be in His presence and for Him to feel safe with us.

By God asking us to keep His Commandments, He's saying that you're able to do it. He wouldn't ask us to do something we couldn't do. We have a fellowship with Him that is like a circle with His love in us. He calls it out of us, then we walk in it and feel closer to Him. You get hooked on it to where you just want to obey Him more, and you don't want to be out of His presence.

2 John 1:6 NLT: *Love means doing what God has commanded us, and he has commanded us to love one another, just as you heard from the beginning.*

- If we walk with Him, we walk in His Commandments, and keeping His Commandments is genuine proof of genuine love.
- It sounds a lot like the Old Testament verbiage. "If you love me, you'll obey my Commandments."
- Then if you obey His Commandments, the enemy will come at you in one direction and will flee from you in seven, and you're never going to borrow. You're only going to lend. You're going to be the head, not the tail, the top, not the bottom (Deuteronomy 28).
- God hasn't changed from the Old to the New Testament. We are to love one another just as we love God, and this type of love we have with God is Covenant love. It's permanent love.

- You don't cease to be who you are. I don't cease to be Kevin. I'm always going to be Kevin, and I can't ever fire my Father because I came from Him.
- I can't quit my Father, and I can't quit who I am because that doesn't ever go away.
- That's how it is in Heaven. Everything is permanent because God wants everything to be forever.
- We don't think like that. We think that if something doesn't work out, we'll just do something else. He doesn't think that way because He never thinks He's going to fail.
- He always wins. He's planned a provision ahead of time. That's much different than thinking, "If it doesn't work out, I'll do something else."

When I went to Heaven, the Lord told me that it would be extra credit if I came back. He said, "You can't fail. You've already accomplished everything. Go back and do extra credit," and I'd never thought about that before. Life is an opportunity to allow the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us, to cause us to triumph over our enemies. It's a blessing every morning when we wake up to have another chance to do something for the Lord for one more day. Each day I wake up, it's a privilege that I'm back here. I've done that since 1992, and I was given a second chance. I've had 28 years and 365 days each year to do it right.

- Christians don't understand why bad things happen to them.
- If you're serving God and walking in obedience to Him, bad things may happen, but because you're in covenant with Him, you can go right to God.
- You can command the enemy to pay you back.
- If you're in disobedience, then you're just reaping the trespass of not doing what you agreed to in the Covenant. In Heaven, it's black and white.
- You can be obedient and not be willing. That attitude can allow for the enemy to come in.

DISCUSS:

1. The love of God and what God's love means to each of you.
2. Why would you be programmed to think that things don't last?
3. What does it mean to cease to understand that God is permanent?
4. When you choose God, and you obey Him, you gain significant benefits. If you choose not to obey Him, there are curses.
5. How the enemy can come in through not obeying, or through being obedient but not having a willing heart of obedience.

PRAYER:

Father, I just thank you so much for all our friends all over the world. Thank you for Warrior Fellowships and what you're doing all over the world. We ask Father that you would cause everyone to not just mentally agree with you but to have a heartfelt passion to obey you to where you manifest. I command every evil spirit to leave and every hindrance to leave. I release the Word of God to be free to manifest right now in the name of Jesus in your spirit. And that your spirits would ignite now with the fire of God from the altar, and that you start to manifest the Word of God in your life, in the name of Jesus. I give you permission to manifest, Father. I just thank you that you move and live and have your being in each one of our friends all over the world. I thank you, Lord God, that they will make history, that they will change the course of their country, of their city, of their state. I thank you, Father, that were all noted in Heaven as history makers in the name of Jesus.