

Walking in Obedience

Pastor Mike Jurek

- 1 John 5:1-3
- What does Obedience mean to you?
- struggles with the view of obedience as a youth, it revolved around someone telling me what to do.
- Viewing Obedience through the lens of love, how it's really only effective through relationship.
 - Genesis 12:1-7
- Biblical examples of obedience, Abram, not just hearing God's voice, but obeying His direction to leave the lands of his father. He chose to obey God when asked to sacrifice Isaac, and in that he was shown that God would give provision and bless those who obey.
 - Genesis 22:1-3,15-18
- Faith and obedience go hand in hand
- Oftentimes our calling isn't revealed to us until we've shown faithfulness through obedience
- Obedience itself isn't God's desire, it's relationship. In fact the when He gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments, it wasn't to confine or restrict them, but to enable them to prosper by living lives set apart, they're about relationship, about living Holy and healthy lives. Next time you read them, look through the lens of a loving God that wants what's best for His people.
- Obedience with the wrong motive or begrudgingly is not what God desires, He may use it to His purposes, but the personal blessing to come from it may not be seen.
 - Jonah 1:1-3
- Jonah ran, got eaten, thrown up, finally listened and obeyed God's direction, but begrudgingly, the city of Ninevah was spared through it, but Jonah was still upset sitting in the hot sun under a dead plant.
- Obedience can be hard sometimes as in the story of the rich ruler.
 - Luke 18:18-23
- Sometimes we feel like we're already in a place of blessing and miss out on what God's calling truly is for our lives. Taking that faith step out of being comfortable into the unknown can be hard, but often times God will use that to launch us into the next step in our calling.
- short work testimony-
- God's got a calling on each of our lives, some are called to ministry, some are called to support ministry, some are called to teach, some are called to serve in areas that we don't always think of as ministry, like shoveling snow, mowing lawns and cleaning toilets.
- Most of the time our calling isn't immediately revealed to us, it comes after obedience. I think if I knew the whole picture all at once, before I was ready, it may have scared me off.
- Progression of ministry through walking in obedience during marriage transformation.
- Prayer teams
- Even when part of your calling is revealed, there's more! It's about relationship, and it's a journey, not a destination. In Christ we have our perfect example of obedience.
 - Philippians 2:5-8
- I want to end with a little bit of a challenge for you to think on, #1, What's God calling you to do? and #2, what's the next step of obedience you need to take to discover what that calling is? it could be

Closing Prayer