

INTRODUCTION

Sunday's sermon presented several illustrations of the impact obedience to God's Word had in the lives of well-known missionaries. In John 17, Jesus prayed for His disciples, because He knew the impact their obedience would have on the future Church. How will your obedience impact those around you, and future generations?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Take turns reading John 17:6-10 several times in difference versions. As others are reading, imagine listening to Jesus pray this over His disciples.
2. In John 17:6, Christ refers to the disciples (directly) and us (by extension) as a gift from the Father to Him. What are the implications of this?
3. What did Jesus say the disciples knew in John 17:7-8? How can Jesus pray with such confidence, knowing that many of the disciples would waver in the very near future (see Matthew 26:56, John 20:19, and Luke 22:59-62)?
4. What is the significance of Jesus stating that he is not praying for the world in verse 9?
5. Pastor Joe shared in his sermon that God's character, Word, assignment and love call us to obedience. How do you respond to the word 'obedience'?
6. Read 1 Samuel 15:22. Why do you think God values our obedience over worship and sacrifice?
7. What was the last specific direction you heard from God's Word? Did you obey? Why or why not? Share the outcome with your group.
8. Is it okay to question God's commands? Are we required to obey without questioning? (Hint...Judges 6:11-23)

9. Pastor Joe's final statement was that God's glory is found in our obedience. How is God glorified when we obey?

APPLICATION

Have you been listening to God's Word by regularly reading the Bible? If not, this week resolve to read Scripture daily. An easy starting point is to read a chapter in Proverbs a day, or go to youversion.com and pick a reading plan (or download the youversion app on your phone).

SCRIPTURE

"I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them."

John 17:6-10 (NIV)