



## ***EQUIPPING THE SAINTS***

# **BIBLE STUDY: THE OBEDIENT CHRISTIAN**

At the moment you placed your faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior, a life of obedience to God became a real possibility. The Holy Spirit set you free from the bondage of sin and death (Romans 8:2). He enables you to live a Christlike life.

*It is not just that we should strive to live like Jesus,  
but that Jesus by His Spirit should come and live in us.  
To have Him as our example is not enough; we need Him as our Savior.  
It is thus through His atoning death that the penalty of our sins may be forgiven;  
whereas it is through His indwelling Spirit that the power of our sins may be broken.*  
—John R. W. Stott\*

*As you learn more about the obedient Christian in action, remember that the Holy Spirit will help you obey.*

VERSES Pg. 755

## **The Basis for Obedience**

When you consider obedience to God, it is necessary to remember who He is and what He desires for you.

1. What do the following statements tell you about God?

a. 1 John 4:8 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Revelation 4:11 \_\_\_\_\_

c. How do these facts influence your obedience to God? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Read Deuteronomy 10:12,13 \_\_\_\_\_

a. What did God require from Israel? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. Why did God desire that they keep these commandments? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. How does this apply to a Christian today? \_\_\_\_\_

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\*From *Basic Christianity* (London: Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, 1958), Page 105.

3. What does 1 John 5:3 teach about God's commandments? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. After reflecting on John 14:15 and 14:21, briefly state the relationship between loving God and obeying Him.

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## **Obedience to God**

*How do you know what God desires for your life?* The Bible is God's revelation of truth, and obedience to God's Word is obedience to God Himself.

5. Psalm 119 deals with the importance of God's Word. What are several ways the Bible can help you live for Christ?

Verse 11 \_\_\_\_\_

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Verse 105 \_\_\_\_\_

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Verse 130 \_\_\_\_\_

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6. In 2 Timothy 3:16 Paul said that the Scriptures are profitable for:

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ (What to believe and do)
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Recognizing sin)
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ (How to change)
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ (How to live)

**This can be illustrated in the drawing on the next page.**

**Teaching**  
Shows you the path to walk on

**Training In Righteousness**  
Shows you how to stay on the path



**Reproof**  
Shows you where you've gotten off the path

**Correction**  
Shows you how to get back on the path

7. Jesus presents a vivid picture of two types of people in Matthew 7:24-27— the wise man and the foolish man. Read the passage and answer the following questions.

**Matthew 7:24-27**

- On what foundation was the house built?
- To what forces were both houses exposed?
- What was the result?
- Did this person hear God's Word?
- How did the two men differ?

	<b>Wise Man</b>	<b>Foolish Man</b>

8. Perhaps God's Word has recently made you aware of an area of your life which needs to be brought into closer obedience to God. If so, in what area?

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## Keys to Consistent Obedience

### God's Provision

God does not expect you to live an obedient life in your own strength. He has provided you with everything necessary to make obedience a reality.

9. Who lives in every believer? \_\_\_\_\_

1 Corinthians 3:16 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Corinthians 6:16 \_\_\_\_\_

Galatians 2:20 \_\_\_\_\_

10. Why are Christians able to overcome their enemy in the world? 1 John 4:4 \_\_\_\_\_

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11. In addition to His personal presence, what else has God given to help you live for Him? Match the letter with appropriate reference.

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|---------------------|--|
| _____ 2 Timothy 1:7 | a. All things that pertain to life and godliness |
| _____ 2 Peter 1:3   | b. The Scriptures                                |
| _____ Romans 15:4   | c. Power, love, and self-control                 |

### Your Attitudes

While God has equipped you for obedience, a key to successful use of these resources is your *attitude*.

12. What attitudes can you display in obeying God?

Deuteronomy 26:16 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalms 40:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 8:15 \_\_\_\_\_

### The Practice of Obedient Living

The obedient Christian still faces daily struggles with temptation. *How can we practice obedience and gain victory over sin?* Biblical principles and examples provide the answer.

13. Discover the source and causes of temptation in the following verses:

a. Who is the tempter? Matthew 4:1-3 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Who is never the source of temptation? James 1:13 \_\_\_\_\_

c. What causes you to be drawn into temptation? James 1:14 \_\_\_\_\_

14. In Joshua 7:20,21, examine Achan's statement about his disobedience.

a. What factors contributed to his disobedience? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. At what point could he have prevented his sin? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. What could you learn from his error? \_\_\_\_\_

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15. Using the following verses as a guide, write a brief definition of sin. Isaiah 53:6; James 4:17; 1 John 3:4

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How does sin differ from temptation? \_\_\_\_\_

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16. Consider 1 Corinthians 10:13.

a. Are the temptations you face different and perhaps more difficult than those faced by others?

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b. What limit does God place on temptation? \_\_\_\_\_

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c. What is God sure to provide when you are tempted? \_\_\_\_\_

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*This verse is a promise to claim. If you memorize and review it, it will remind you to look for the way out when you are tempted.*

God offers us victory and deliverance, but men sin because they often neglect the provision. Known but unconfessed sin grieves God. Although sin does not alter God's love, it does cause a break in fellowship with Him. That fellowship needs to be restored...

17. In 1 John 1:9 we are told to...(Check the correct answer.)

\_\_\_\_\_ feel badly about sin.

\_\_\_\_\_ try to do something to make up for sin.

\_\_\_\_\_ confess sin to God.

\_\_\_\_\_ try to forget about sin.

Why is this important? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

18. In Psalm 32:5, David prays and confesses his sin. Write this verse in your own words.

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\_\_\_\_\_

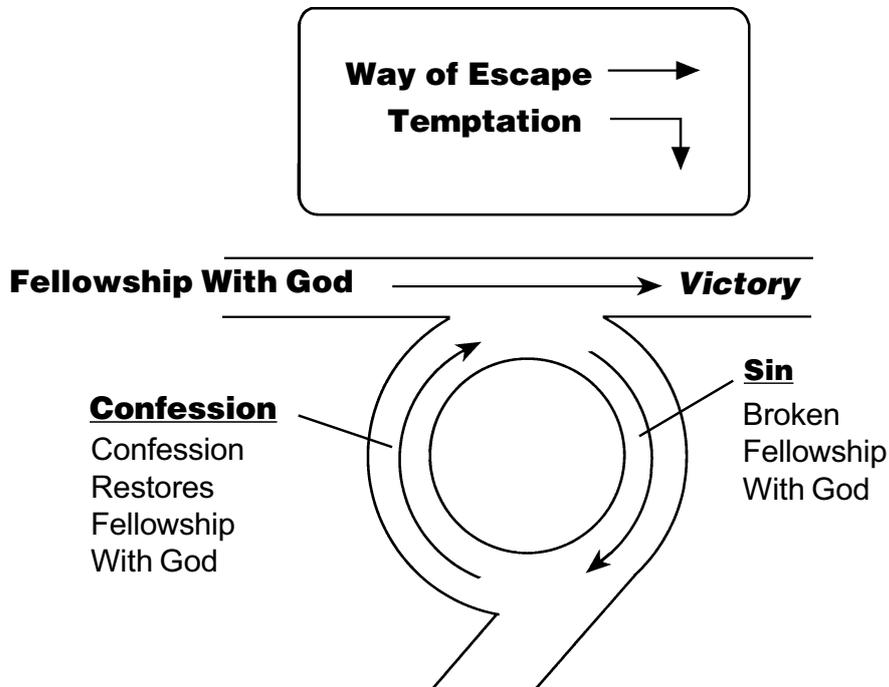
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**The practice of walking in victory can be pictured as follows:**



19. In what practical ways can you avoid falling into temptation? Proverbs 4:13-15

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20. What two steps indicated in James 4:7 will help you walk in victory?

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**To Submit to God** you must yield your will to God's will. **To Resist the Devil** you must use God's provision for victory.

21. These questions about sin and temptation probably remind you of the daily conflict you experience.

a. Review question 8. What is the root problem in the area you recorded? \_\_\_\_\_

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b. How does the temptation to disobey God in this area begin to show itself? \_\_\_\_\_

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c. What steps can you take to avoid these beginnings? \_\_\_\_\_

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This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

(Galatians 5:16)

## Remember These Points:

- *Your obedience to God is based on the fact that He is your Creator. You obey Him because of who He is.*
- *God reveals His standards through the Scriptures.*
- *To the extent that you appropriate God's provisions for victory, you can experience a life of obedience.*
- *You are not immune, however, from temptation and sin. Sin does not negate God's love for you, but it does break your fellowship with Him. Confession restores that fellowship.*