



Questions for Reflection & Application

Title: The Practice of Obedience

Text: John 14:15–24

Outline:

- The key question: Should we do what Jesus wants us to do, or should we do something else?
- Two errors to avoid
 - Legalism
 - Antinomianism
- Reasons to obey
 - Love
 - Wisdom
 - Witness
- What to obey
 - Direct commands of Jesus in the Gospels
 - Other New Testament commands for the church
 - Old Testament commands that still apply to the church (moral law vs ceremonial or judicial)
- How to obey when it's hard: By the power of the Holy Spirit in us

1. Before this message, how did you think about the relationship between obedience and grace?
2. What makes legalism tempting to fall into? What makes antinomianism tempting to fall into?
3. Which of the 3 reasons for obedience is most compelling to you? Why?
4. What are some relational words the Bible uses to describe God and us (e.g., God is Father; we are his children)? How do these terms help us accept his commands?
5. What role does the Old Testament law have in the Christian's life?
6. What's an example of a command that was hard for you to obey when you were younger but isn't any more? What changed? What does this tell you about something that's hard to obey now?
7. What's an example of a time when you had to depend on the Holy Spirit to obey a command from Scripture? What was your role in this? What was the Spirit's role? What does this tell you about something that's hard to obey now?
8. What's one practical thing you're going to do with this message this week? discussion this week?