

## OBEDIENCE TO THE MASTER

Romans 6:16-17 NIV - Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey--whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance.

### DESCRIPTION

The Apostle Paul knew that He had been bought with a price. God purchased us for Himself with the precious blood of Jesus. This redemption sets us free from wrong "masters" so that we can obey God.

It is true that Jesus calls us His friends but He is also our King. The Kingdom is a monarchy, not a democracy. Our King has the right to give us orders, instructions, and daily tasks. Unfortunately, we often live according to our own agenda, desires, ambitions, the pattern of this world, or the expectations of others rather than turning ourselves over to obey God exclusively.

We are God's servants. A servant eagerly awaits their master's orders and executes them without argument or contradiction. The master sets the agenda each day for their own purposes and has the right to shift the focus of the servant anytime they need to.

To practice Obedience to the Master is about receiving daily "orders" from the Lord about the things that He has for us **today** so that we can obey Him even if it means we have to alter our own plans.

### CONSIDERATIONS

Has there been a time when you knew that God was telling you to do something other than what you had planned? What was this like for you? What did you do? What difficulties do you encounter when thinking of yourself as a servant/slave? Why are you offended? Are you willing to allow God to change your plans today? This week? This year? For your life?



### PURPOSE:

To listen to God's voice.

To discern the will of the Lord for us for today.

To present ourselves to God to do His will.

### SPIRITUAL FRUIT:

Greater alignment with God's will.

Increased awareness of God in our daily life and routine.

Increased worship through offering of ourselves.

Improved clarity of God's desires for us.

## PRAYER

Jesus, you are my King. Forgive me for the times I have treated You too casually by not listening to or obeying Your instructions. I come before You now as a servant to my Master to receive Your directions and to do Your will. Speak to me now so I can obey Your voice. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## PRACTICE

1. Each morning, set a time and find a quiet and private place where you can spend time with God.
  - If you need to wake up earlier to make this time, do so.
  - Bring your Bible and a notebook to take note of anything significant the Lord may share with you.
2. Be still for a moment. Then, offer yourself to God.
  - Offer the day ahead to God, saying, "Jesus, I offer this day to you as a sacrifice. I desire to do Your will today."
  - Wait for anything He might say to you before you begin.
3. Begin to ask the Lord for His guidance for the day. Give Jesus enough time to respond to you. Take notes of your King's responses as needed. Use the following questions as a guide for your conversation.
  - King Jesus, what do you have for me today?
  - Is there anything You want me to do?
  - Is there anywhere You want me to go?
  - Is there anyone You want me to reach out to or serve?
  - Is there any issue in me that You want to address?
  - Is there anyone You want me to forgive or bless?
  - Is there anything You want me to acquire or give away?
  - Is there anything on my calendar today that is **not** Your will? How do You want me to handle that?
  - Is there any fruit of the Spirit that You desire for me to execute my tasks with today? (love, joy, peace, etc.)
4. Thank the Lord for His guidance. Ask Him to help you to do the things He has revealed to you **today**, without making excuses – especially the things you might not desire to do.

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### ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES:

John 10:27

Psalms 123:2

1 Corinthians 6:20

1 Corinthians 7:23

Isaiah 30:21

Hebrews 3:7,15

Jeremiah 31:33

Romans 12:1

Philippians 2:6-8