

Why Obey?

Word

Scripture Reference

Exodus 6:28:7:13

Discussion Questions:

1. What makes it difficult for you to obey a rule or an instruction?
2. *"To obey or not to obey?"* As God's people, the right answer is that we should obey Him even through times that it may not be easy to do so. The only way to be happy in your life with the Lord Jesus Christ is to trust and obey Him. The book of Exodus tells us how God had set His people free from the oppressive rule of the king of Egypt through the obedience and leadership of Moses. Read Exodus 6:28-7:1-13. This account teaches us three reasons why you need to obey God:
 - a. *When you obey, it reminds you of the true source of your strength (ch. 6:28-7:2,6-10).* It is good to acknowledge your weaknesses and admit it, but it does not stop there. The next step is to turn to God and say, "Help me, Lord!" What did God command Moses to do? Discuss Moses' initial reaction. If you were him, would you also be hesitant to obey God? What convinced Moses to eventually follow God? Have you accomplished something significant despite your inadequacies? Share and discuss how relying on God's strength helped/helps you do that.
 - b. *When you obey, it reveals the true condition of your heart (ch. 7:3-4a, 11-13).* When the Bible talks about the condition of your heart, it does not refer to emotions or feelings. It is talking about your thoughts, understanding, and reasoning. In other words, "heart" in the Bible refers to the response of man to God's command. So, when someone's heart is described as hard, it means that that person rejects what God is telling him/her. Why was Pharaoh's heart hardened? Examine your own walk with God. What usually happens when you disobey His word? Discuss what happens when you habitually reject God's voice through His Word or other Christians' admonition? If your heart is hard, do you think you could still hear God when He speaks? Why

would you lose intimacy with God when you disobey Him? How can you keep your heart in tune with God?

- c. *When you obey, it shows it's all for the glory of God (ch. 7:4b-5).* Moses had to do everything he was told to do so that people would know God and His glory. But it was not through Moses' own strength that the people united to follow God and were set free. It was through God's strength and power. At the end of the day, God gets the glory. Not only did the Israelites able to know God, but the Egyptians did as well. How is Jesus being magnified in your life? Share how others can see (or know) the Lord clearly as a crystal because of your act of obedience. Examine your life and daily actions. Could others see that God is truly worthy of praise through you?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 9:12-13. What did the apostle Paul say about the services of God's people? How would it affect the receivers? Whose glory would it magnify?

Walk

When you obey, it would show that God, the true source of your strength, has the ability to empower you, that through His sufficient grace, you can do His work. When you obey, it would reveal the true condition of your heart. You become sensitive to the Word of God. When you obey, it would show that it's important to you that God gets the glory, because everything is for His glory. To obey or not to obey? Will you just do what you want, or what God wants? Think of how your obedience to Him could be obvious to everyone and how it would give Him back the glory.

Worship & Prayer

Heavenly Father, You are the sovereign God. Everything is created by You, for You. Forgive me for the times I forget that, times when I choose to do my own way because it's more convenient. Thank You for the reminder that I can do what I do because You have given me the ability, strength, resources. Thank You for showing me through Your Word (and through other people) that all the things I do every day that is contrary to Your Word reveal a prideful heart that basks in glory that is not mine. Forgive me, Father. Teach me to trust You and to be sensitive to Your voice. Allow me the opportunity, through my daily actions, to give praise and glory back to You, even in the little things. In Christ's name, I pray. Amen.