

Walking In Obedience

- Welcome
- Pray In

Today's text

- John 7:14-24 NIV
- Romans 2:17-24 NIV
- Ephesians 6:10-17 NIV
- Galatians 5:22-23 NIV

Message

- Don't just know God's Word - DO God's word
- Choose Relationship over Religion
- Put on the armor every day (morning routine)

John 7:14-24

- ¹⁴ Not until halfway through the festival did Jesus go up to the temple courts and begin to teach. ¹⁵ The Jews there were amazed and asked, "How did this man get such learning without having been taught?"
- ¹⁶ Jesus answered, "My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me. ¹⁷ Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. ¹⁸ Whoever speaks on their own does so to gain personal glory, but he who seeks the glory of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him. ¹⁹ Has not Moses given you the law? Yet not one of you keeps the law. Why are you trying to kill me?"
- ²⁰ "You are demon-possessed," the crowd answered. "Who is trying to kill you?"
- ²¹ Jesus said to them, "I did one miracle, and you are all amazed. ²² Yet, because Moses gave you circumcision (though actually it did not come from Moses, but from the patriarchs), you circumcise a boy on the Sabbath. ²³ Now if a boy can be circumcised on the Sabbath so that the law of Moses may not be broken, why are you angry with me for healing a man's whole body on the Sabbath? ²⁴ Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly."

- John 7:14
- Halfway through the festival. The crowds would have been at their max in the temple courts at this time.
- John 7:15
- The Jews. Here distinct from “the crowds” who were also largely Jewish without having been taught, By a rabbi, Jesus had never been the disciple of a recognized Jewish teacher. (Judging outward appearance)
- Jesus lacked training from a rabbi but his training came from God-
- Both his teaching and authority.
- John 7:16-18
- Those who attempt to know God’s will and do it will know intuitively that Jesus was telling the truth about himself.
- Not my own. The Father, from whom he came, had been his “rabbi”
- Chooses to do the will of God. Reflecting a whole attitude of life. A person sincerely set on doing God’s will welcomes Jesus’ teaching and believes in him.
- **(Add slide)** Augustine of Hippo, one of the most influential Christian teachers in church history, once said, *“Understanding is the reward of faith. Therefore do not seek to understand in order to believe, but believe that you may understand.”*
 - He is not saying “don’t think or believe blindly.” He is saying that with God, we often want to reverse the order. We say, “God, explain everything to me first, and then I’ll trust you.” Augustine is saying biblical faith says, “ God, I trust You because of who You are, and as I trust and obey You, You give me greater understanding.”
- Story All IN- Made a decision to trust God more than myself
- Whether people follow Jesus depends on whether they are willing to obey him.
- Those who are willing to follow Jesus will believe that he is the way, the truth and the life.
- Our faith, our belief in Him is what leads us into doing His will.
 - Have you ever listened to religious speakers and wondered if what they were saying was true? Test them

- Their word should agree with, not contradict, the Bible
- Their words should point to God and his will, not to themselves.
- In this gospel, no one is spoken of as being “true” except God the father and Jesus. Once more John ranks Jesus with God.
- John 7:19
- The law. These Jews congratulated themselves on being the chosen recipients of the law, but Jesus told them that they all broke the law of which they were so proud.
- The Pharisees spent their days trying to achieve holiness by keeping the meticulous rules that they had added to God’s laws.
- Jesus' accusation that they didn't keep Moses' laws stung them deeply! In spite of their pride in themselves and their rules, they did not even fulfill a legalistic religion, for they were living far below what the law of Moses required.
- Murder was certainly against the law.
- Trying to kill me... A striking example of their failure to keep the law.
- Share- Knowing God’s verses vs actually obeying them .
 - Spiritual Story- When I committed to reading scripture (knowing the verses and applying verse not)
 - Physical story- When I committed to losing weight (Knowing nutrition, cardio, strength training, not knowing)

Romans 2:17-24

- ¹⁷ Now you, if you call yourself a Jew; if you rely on the law and boast in God; ¹⁸ if you know his will and approve of what is superior because you are instructed by the law; ¹⁹ if you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark, ²⁰ an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of little children, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth— ²¹ you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? ²² You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? ²³ You who boast in the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? ²⁴ As it is written: “God’s name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.”

- Paul is calling out their hypocrisy of what they preach and teach vs what they actually do!
 - A single action is worth more than a thousand words.
- We find it much easier to tell others how to behave than to behave ourselves. We may know the right words to say but we don't allow them to take root in our lives.
 - Do you ever advise others to do something you are unwilling to do yourself?
 - Make sure that your actions match your words.
- Religion focuses on appearance.
- Relationship produces character, integrity and obedience.
- Integrity is when what I say I believe matches how I actually live.
 - A head full of the word of God and a life full of sin just don't go!
- Story- Pastor Joe INTEGRITY Every slice of the pie matters
- John 7:20- Most of the people were probably not aware of the plot to kill Jesus.
- There was a small group looking for the right opportunity to kill him, but most were still trying to decide what they believed about him.
- This is one of several instances where Jesus is falsely charged with demon possession.
- John 7:21-24-
- The one miracle mostly refers to back in chapter 5 when Jesus healed the lame man in Bethesda by the pool on the Sabbath.
- According to the law given given by God to Moses, circumcision was to be performed eight days after a baby's birth
- Genesis 17:9-14
 - Covenant with God to Abraham- Every son must be circumcised on day 8
 - Leviticus 12:3
 - The Lord said to Moses
 - On the eighth day the boy is to be circumcized
- This was carried out on all Jewish males to demonstrate their identity as part of God's covenant people.
- If the 8th day after birth was a Sabbath, the circumcision would still be performed (even though it was considered work).

- While the religious leaders allowed certain exceptions to Sabbath laws, they allowed none to Jesus who was simply showing mercy to those who needed healing.
- The Jewish leaders' hypocrisy affected their judgment.
- They were judging Jesus by outward appearances while missing what God was actually doing.
- How can we walk in obedience dealing with a spiritual battle every day?
- Put on the full armor of God/ Mark your character with the fruit of spirit.

Ephesians 6:10-17

- ¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Ask the Holy Spirit to build your character based on the fruit of the spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23

- ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.
- Share my morning routine

3 Key Takeaways

1. Don't just know God's Word - DO God's word
2. Choose Relationship over Religion
3. Put on the armor every day (morning routine)