

STEADFAST
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Follow Me Day One

Choosing Obedience

“Obedience” is not a popular word these days. For many it conjures up thoughts of over-bearing dominance, weak capitulation and blind conformity. However, imagine if obedience was seen as life-saving, life-sustaining and life-providing? Airline cabin crews are told to secure all doors before takeoff, and we rely on their obedience for our safety. We tell our children to hold our hands while crossing a busy street, and we make them obey for their well-being.

Typically our response to being told to obey is relative to who is telling us to obey, why we are being told to obey, and how we feel about the circumstances. We want to know in advance what obedience will require of us and how it will make us look before we agree to submit our will to another. Jesus saw obedience to God as absolute. He forsook his image and his free will, and, in humility, he simply obeyed God.

We will never face a tougher request for obedience than Jesus did from his Father. He obeyed no matter what his Father required of him, and through that demonstrated not only the importance of obeying God, but also the *power* of obeying God.

If you have accepted Jesus, you too are a child of God, and your heavenly Father requires your obedience. Because obedience to God cost Jesus his life, we can obediently submit our lives to him also. Jesus’ glorification and return to his Father after being obedient to death on a cross reminds us that while our obedience to God can be costly, it also results in great rewards.

Pray Today

Pray that you would delight in obeying God and grow to be joyful in your obedience. Ask Jesus to help you understand that when you obey him, you worship him, just as he worshiped his Father.

“And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!”

Philippians 2:8