



Keeping the Commandments

Scripture: **1 John 2:3–6**

Series: **Doctrine and Devotion: A Study in the First Epistle of John**

Sunday, March 08, 2015

Corroborating Texts: 2 Cor. 2:14; 1 Jn. 1:8; Phil. 1:6; John 14:15

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Overview

Our obedience is not a condition of knowing God. It is a *consequence* of knowing God.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever seen a parent struggle with gaining their child's obedience? Do you recall a time when you as a parent struggled to gain your child's obedience? What about when you were a child? Share this story. What does this say about our condition after the fall?
2. What is the mission of the church? [to make disciples as disciples and to spread the knowledge of God] What is necessary in order to spread God's knowledge? [knowing Him] Talk through how this takes place. How do we come to know God? (c.f. 1 John 2:3).
3. One avenue through which assurance comes is in keeping God's commandments. Talk through the process of knowing and obeying His law. What are three things that the law teaches us? [what is good; what is bad; our need for Jesus] Navigate the tension of being sinners who have power to obey. What does our relationship to God and our relationship to the law look like as Christ followers?
4. Why does God delight in Christian obedience? [Christian obedience comes by faith—bringing Him glory through our satisfaction in Him] How does obeying God's commands give us true satisfaction? What about these commands is satisfying?
5. When you look at your life, what does it look like in terms of obedience? Do you love obeying God's commands and laws? Do you feel ill-equipped? Is your obedience from faith or legalism? How do you distinguish the two? [true faith-filled obedience exists where our affections and actions meet]
6. What is so compelling about obeying God's law? Why should we long to do so? What about God—his character, work, and revelation—makes obeying God's law so delightful?
7. What is the point of this section of Scripture? Why is it so necessary that we know these truths? What are other responses that people might make to the law? Why are they inadequate or incorrect?