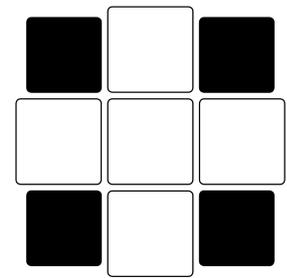


Learning to Love and Obey

Scripture: 1 John 5:1–3

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

Sunday, October 25, 2015



REDEEMER
FELLOWSHIP

Discussion Questions

1. What does the Christian life look like? Rules or freedom? Love or obedience? [the Christian life is one of love and obedience—they are distinct but connected]
2. What is the sign of the new birth (to be made new, the new creation, regeneration, born again)? [faith, belief. Nicodemus's example in John 3:3, 2 Corinthians 5:17. There is a new you. You are given a new heart and a new mind and experience conviction, assurance, and growth.]
3. What comes first? The new birth or faith? [see the Lydia example in Acts 16:14] Why is this important? [it eliminates our ability to boast; it recognizes the power and role of God]
4. What is the consequence of the new birth? [1. Love of God: a) priority—He gets His rightful place; b) pursuit of His glory; c) passion for Him—not just action, deep affection to be shared with others. 2. Love of others: a) not before God but before you; b) pursuit of their good/ advancement, restoration; c) passion for others—deep affection]
5. How are love and obedience connected? [see John 14:15, John 14:21]
6. What different kinds of obedience are there? [Dead obedience—done out of the fear of consequences or out of a desire for reward. Living obedience—done out of faith and love.]
7. How can God's commands be burdensome? [For the unbeliever, they are hard and frustrating. The law confounds, crushes, and condemns. For the believer, the law is a blessing in light of the fact that Jesus has kept it. We can look upon the law as David did in Psalm 119. He loves, delights in, and sings the commands of God because they comfort and renew him. Psalm 19 teaches us the law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul (v7) and rejoice the heart (v8)]
8. Does Paul seem burdened by the law in Romans 7:15-19? How do we reconcile this?