Acts 5:29 (ESV) But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men.

Acts 4:18-20 (ESV) 18 So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, 20 for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”

Acts 1:8 (ESV) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 5:42 (ESV) And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

1. The power for obedience is The Holy Spirit.  (Acts 5:12-17)

   Acts 4:29 (ESV) And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,

2. The cost of obedience is intense opposition.

   (A) The first wave of opposition is jealousy.  (Acts 5:17–21)

   Acts 5:19-21 (ESV) 19 But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, “Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.” 21 And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach. Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council, all the senate of the people of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought.

   Philippians 2:14-16 (ESV) 14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

   (B) The second wave of opposition comes through intimidation.  (Acts 5:21-32)

   Acts 5:29 (ESV) But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men.

   (C) The third wave of opposition is fury!  (Acts 5:33)

   Acts 22:3 (ESV) “I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day.
3. The result of sacrificial obedience is joy.  

Acts 5:41 (ESV) Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.

Acts 5:42 (ESV) And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

Acts 9:31 (ESV) So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.

Acts 28:31 (ESV) proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.