

# Making it Mine

A Bible study for kids ready to  
grow a faith of their own.

Month 9 Week 2

OBEDIENCE

READ:

Mark 9 - 16

Heart graffiti:

**“LOVE THE  
LORD YOUR  
GOD WITH ALL  
YOUR HEART  
AND WITH ALL  
YOUR SOUL AND  
WITH ALL YOUR  
MIND AND WITH  
ALL YOUR  
STRENGTH. THE  
SECOND IS THIS:  
LOVE YOUR  
NEIGHBOR AS  
YOURSELF.  
THERE IS NO  
COMMAND-  
MENT GREATER  
THAN THESE.”  
MARK 12:30-31**

Obedience matters. God wants us to be holy and blameless people, even as He is holy. He wants us to fear Him and respect His wrath and power. He wants us to know and obey His instruction. I think most of all, He wants us to desire Him, to choose Him. Obedience gives us a framework in which to be constantly choosing. It forces us, reminds us, that we must make a choice. And the choice is simple: God, or not God. In every decision, of which I make hundreds a day, do I choose God? Not only in external choices of good and evil, but also in matters of thought and attitude. Every word out of my mouth is a choice of obedience. Every dime I spend is a choice of obedience. Nothing that we do, no matter how big or small, escapes the reality of our constant choosing.

What did God say to the Israelites in Deut. 30:11-20? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What did Joshua remind the Israelites in Joshua 24:14-27? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The rich young man in Mark 10:17-31 was willing to follow the rules, but when Jesus asked for it **all**, an obedience that chooses to give up **everything** in order to follow Jesus, he wasn't so sure. Following the rules, the letter of the law, is one thing. Choosing to follow the Ruler is quite another. When a teacher of the law asked Jesus in 12:28-33 what the most important rule to follow was, what did Jesus say? \_\_\_\_\_

The value in any relationship is in being chosen. God chooses us. Over and over He chooses us. Now what He wants to know is if we will choose Him. That is the obedience that God wants.

**PASSOVER** Mark 14:12-26

Passover was the most important of all Jewish festivals. It celebrated the passing over of the Israelites during the last plague in Egypt and their deliverance from slavery.

Every part of the Passover feast, held profound meaning for the Jewish people. This feast more than any other served to define the nation's relationship with God. It was a joyous occasion with the people wearing their finest and eating in the posture fitting for children of a king; reclining on their left elbow. It began with the head of the group pronouncing a blessing over the wine which had been poured for each person. Only unleavened bread was eaten, along with the Passover lamb, and bitter herbs. Psalms were sung at specific times throughout the meal. Through the seven day festival, special sacrifices were made, in addition to the normal ones. It was the greatest time of worship and celebration of the year. How fitting and meaningful that this was the last meal that Jesus shared with the disciples, giving the benediction for the cup, taking the place of the Passover lamb, and all of the sacrifices to follow. (Unger 410-414)

God instituted the very first Passover feast, knowing far more what it would come to mean than the Israelites possibly could. Did Jesus share that full knowledge as He obediently shared in the festivities all those years up to this last one? For Him, it must have had so much more meaning. He knew that He was the fulfillment of all that the feast stood for. What was the tone of this last supper shared with His followers? Was it a joyous occasion of the ultimate Passover now to be realized? Was it a somber reflection of things to come? What is it that we are called to imitate and remember?

**FORSAKEN** Mark 15:34

*“And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” – which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”*

Jesus came for this very purpose. If there was ever anyone sure of their calling it had to have been Jesus. But it is soooo difficult to obey God and then feel abandoned by Him. I've had times of my own when I have said “God, I did what you wanted me to, how come you didn't make it turn out better?” Some part of us expects a prize for doing right. Someone should notice. Someone should be pleased. God should bless us with success. Shouldn't He?

What was Jesus' reward for His obedience while He was still on earth? (Mark 15:16-20) \_\_\_\_\_

What was His reward after His death? (Mark 14:62) \_\_\_\_\_





# PUZZLE PAGE

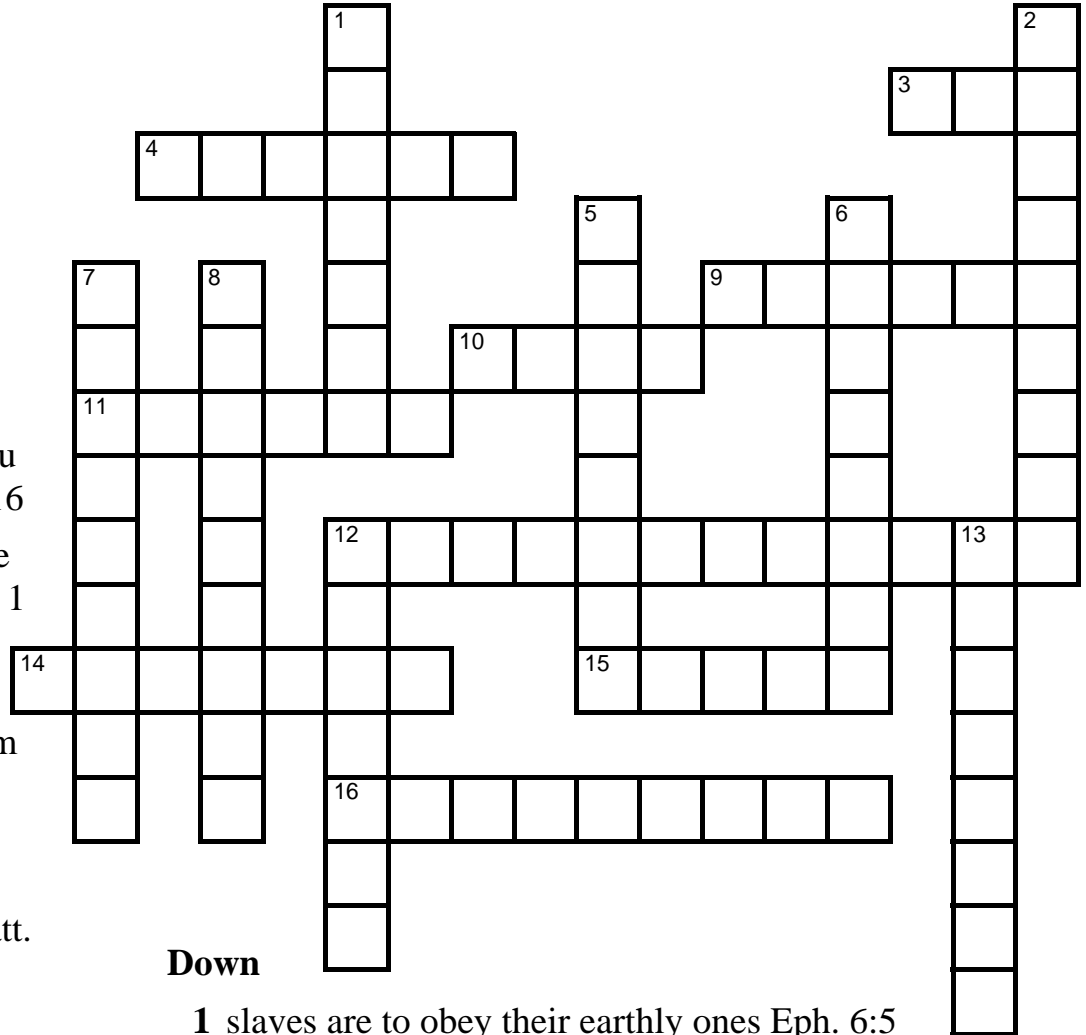
## OBEDIENCE

### Across

- 3** number of regulations to obey Deut. 12:28
- 4** we are \_\_\_\_\_ for obedience 1 Peter 1:2
- 9** to whoever you obey Rom. 6:16
- 10** those who love God will obey 1 John 5:3
- 11** learned obedience from suffering Heb. 5:8
- 12** to enter life, obey these Matt. 19:17
- 14** if you are \_\_\_\_\_ and obedient, you will eat the best Is. 1:19
- 15** purified by obeying this 1 Peter 1:22
- 16** comes from faith Rom. 1:5

### Down

- 1** slaves are to obey their earthly ones Eph. 6:5
- 2** come from obeying Gen. 22:18
- 5** the Lord will keep this if you obey Deut. 7:12
- 6** Jesus was obedient to his parents here Luke 2:51
- 7** God would rather have obedience than this 1 Sam. 15:22
- 8** how God's commands are to be followed Deut. 28:1
- 12** do not do this to evil desires 1 Peter 1:14
- 13** take them captive and make them obedient to Christ 2 Cor. 10:5



### THE PRICE OF OBEDIENCE

Talk about some of the things that our love for God might lead us to do. What are some of the ways that we obey Him? Have the students name some times that obeying God had some immediate benefits for them. Have there been any times that you did the right thing, but it seems like it didn't turn out so well? What is the goal of obedience? What did obedience to His Father cost Jesus? What has it cost you?

Play a competitive game with a definite winner and loser. Give the loser a prize and nothing to the winner. Sometimes it seems like those who do the worst, like cheat on a test, or cut in line, get the prize while the people who do the best job being obedient get nothing. How can your students deal with those situations? What did Jesus say?

### WANT TO READ WHAT I READ?

Peterson, Eugene. *A Long Obedience the Same Direction*. 2nd. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000.

Unger, Merrill F.. *The New Unger's Bible Dictionary*. Chicago: Moody, 1988.

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**Sing:  
TRUST  
AND  
OBEY**

The Jewish people had been given lots of rules to follow, and they did not necessarily understand the reason for all of them. But they did them because God said so and they trusted that He had something in mind for them. Many of the ways of doing things were simply so they (and we) could understand Christ better. They had to wait hundreds of years to find that out. The system of sacrifices is one example.

Find a complicated recipe for a multi-layered cake. Read it to the kids and ask if they understand the reactions of the ingredients as the cake bakes. Probably not, but we trust the recipe. God has a recipe for us too!

