

Sermon Discussion (8/31/2025)

The Church is growing. The more it grows the more it threatens the power structure in place.

Title: Obedience

The Main Question: When do we obey?

Points to Consider

1. Obey even when you are just an ordinary person.
2. Obey even when it doesn't make sense to you.
3. Obey even when it's dangerous.
4. Obey even when you have reasons not to.

Scripture References:

Acts 9:10–16 NIV

¹⁰ In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord," he answered. ¹¹ The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight." ¹³ "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

Application Questions

- What relationship do you have with “obedience”?

Love God / Invitation / Relationship

We experience the love of God when we invite Him into our lives.

- Read [Acts 9:10–16](#).
- Where is the invitation to love God in this passage?
- The invitation of God is easy to see. Could Ananias have rejected it?
- What affect will accepting God’s invitation have on Ananias?
- What affect will it have on Saul?

Find Freedom / Learning / Clarity

Freedom is found when we learn a new way to think.

- In this passage God is teaching Ananias and Saul how to think differently. How would you describe Ananias’s bondage?
- What does Saul’s bondage look like?
- How is bondage broken in this passage?

See God / Prayer / Affirmation

It is much easier for us to “see” God when we are communicating with God. Prayer is how we communicate with God.

- What is common between Ananias and Saul?
- What are they both doing?
- Could they have heard God’s voice if they were not praying?

Experience Healing / Serve Others / Opportunities

The brokenness in our hearts begins to heal as we serve other people.

- Describe the brokenness in this passage?
- How does God begin the restoration process?
- Do you have a similar situation to this?
- How can you begin a restoration process?

Discover Joy / Gratitude / Community

The more grateful we are the more joy we feel.

- Who is going to be grateful as this story unfolds?
- What kind of joy will this produce? This is the Kingdom of God and the will of God.
- How can you produce joy in your life and in the lives of others this week?