

Small Group Bible Study / Discussion

Sermon Series: *Lord, teach us to pray*

Sermon Title: Pray and Obey – There's no other way
Passage: John 14:21-15:11; 1 John 3:21-24

Date: February 8, 2009
Message # 6

Think about it

- How should a parent respond to a disobedient (rebellious) child asking for things they want?
- Agree or disagree – “Selected obedience in not obedience at all; it's merely convenience”
- How should God respond to someone with a disobedient lifestyle who is asking Him for things?

Examine it

- What does Jesus say about love and obedience? (John 14:21-24)
- Who will Jesus show Himself to? (John 14:21)
- What happens to those who love and obey Jesus? (John 14:21-23)
- What does Jesus say the Holy Spirit will do for the disciples? (John 14:26)
Does that apply to us today? Why or why not? (Any other passages that come to mind?)
- How does Jesus use the analogy of the vine, branches, and fruit in a believer's life? (John 15:1-11)
What does that have to do with prayer? (15:7) What does that have to do with joy? (15:11)
- What do confidence and obedience have to do with each other? (1 John 3:21)
- What do prayer and obedience have to do with each other? (1 John 3:21-24)
- How do we know Jesus lives in us? (1 John 3:24)

Discuss it

- What commands of Christ do you find difficult to obey? Why?
- How do prayer and answered prayer help us to obey?
- What does it mean for Jesus to “live in us” and “we in Him”?
- What does obedience have to do with assurance that Jesus is in us, and we are in Him?
- How do we “remain” (abide) in Jesus?

Live it out

- What area(s) in your life need to come under the Lordship of Christ?
- What can you do to grow in consistency of obedience to God?
- Are you sensing the life of the Vine in you? Why, or why not?
- What can you do this week to better remain/abide in Jesus?

Pray about it

What does this study prompt you to pray about?

...something to praise God for? ...thank God for? ...confess? ...ask for?

Additional passage for meditation or memory: 1 John 2:3-4; 4:15-19; Ephesians 5:6-8

Next week's passage: Selected passages in the gospel of Luke