

Discipleship Class - Obedience over feelings

A disciple doesn't follow Jesus only when he or she feels good, looks safe, or makes sense. A disciple follows Jesus because He is Lord—period.

Why this lesson is so life-changing

- Feelings change daily. **Truth doesn't.**
- Convenience is a terrible compass. **Christ is the compass.**
- God often grows us most in the places we'd naturally avoid.

Key Scriptures (NKJV)

- **Luke 9:23** — “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.”
- **John 14:15** — “If you love Me, keep My commandments.”
- **James 1:22** — “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only...”
- **Matthew 7:24** — “Whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them... I will liken him to a wise man...”
- **Philippians 2:13** — “For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”

3 Discipleship Truths to Remember

1. **Jesus didn't call us to admire Him—He called us to follow Him.**
2. **Delayed obedience is still disobedience.**
3. **Obedience is how love gets legs.** (Love isn't just a feeling—love moves!)

Remember this:

Sometimes Jesus will ask you to do something that stretches you—not to punish you, but to **prepare you**. Because He loves you too much to leave you the same.

Holy Highlights – What is Holy I want to Highlight

1. Obedience is proof of love.

When we obey Jesus, we're not earning love—we're responding to love. (John 14:15)

2. God will strengthen what He commands.

If Jesus asks you to do it, He will also empower you to live it out. (Philippians 2:13)

3. Your “yes” to God will bless others.

Obedience isn't just personal growth—it becomes someone else's breakthrough.

4. Delayed obedience steals peace.

When you finally obey, peace often follows—because your heart lines up with God's will.

5. Obedience produces spiritual maturity.

Cross-carrying makes strong disciples. Comfort makes weak ones. (Luke 9:23)

Wisdom Nuggets to Remember

1. Feelings are like weather—faith is your foundation.

2. If you wait until you feel ready, you may never move.

3. Obedience is the seed... and peace is often the harvest.

4. God's commands are not heavy—they're holy.

5. A disciple doesn't follow Jesus occasionally—he follows Him daily.

6. When obedience is hard, remember: Jesus is worth it.

Questions

1. What is a disciple? A disciple is a follower and learner of Jesus who lives to obey Him, not just admire Him. (Luke 9:23)

2. Why is obedience more powerful than feelings? Because feelings change, but God's truth stays the same—and disciples live by truth. (James 1:22)

3. What does it mean to “deny yourself”? It means saying “no” to your flesh and “yes” to Jesus—even when it's inconvenient. (Luke 9:23)

4. **What does “take up your cross daily” mean?** Choosing God’s will daily—dying to selfish desires, staying faithful, and following Jesus consistently. (Luke 9:23)
5. **How do I know if I’m obeying or just agreeing with the Bible?** Agreement says, “That’s true.” Obedience says, “I will do it.” (Matthew 7:24)
6. **What happens when I obey even when I don’t feel like it?** God builds spiritual strength, your faith grows, and your life produces fruit. (Galatians 5:22–23)
7. **What if I fail in obedience? Does God give up on me?** No. God corrects, restores, and strengthens you. A disciple gets back up and keeps following. (Proverbs 24:16)
8. **What is one simple way to start walking in obedience today?** Obey the next thing God already told you—one step, one “yes,” one act of faith. (John 14:15)

Here are 8 must-know definitions every disciple should have in their toolbox (clear, simple, and powerful):

1. **Disciple**
A committed follower of Jesus who learns from Him and lives to obey Him daily (not just believe in Him mentally).
2. **Lordship**
Jesus being the true Leader and Authority over your life—your choices, priorities, and obedience are submitted to Him.
3. **Repentance**
A heart-and-life change: turning away from sin and turning toward God, choosing His ways over your old ways.
4. **Salvation**
God rescuing you by grace through faith in Jesus—saving you from sin and bringing you into new life with Him.
5. **Grace**
God’s unearned favor and divine help—His power working in you to forgive, transform, and strengthen you to live for Him.

6. Sanctification

The lifelong process of becoming more like Jesus—God cleaning, shaping, and growing you as you walk with Him.

7. Faith

Trusting God's Word and character enough to act on it—belief that moves your feet, not just your feelings.

8. Obedience

Responding to God's Word with action—doing what Jesus says because you love Him and trust Him, even when it's hard.

My Encouragement to my bible besties...

Disciple of Jesus—**your obedience is not small**. Every time you choose truth over feelings, God is shaping you into someone steady, strong, and fruitful. The enemy loves “later,” but Heaven loves **today**. If Jesus said “follow Me,” that means He's already gone ahead of you—and He will not ask you to carry anything without giving you grace to carry it.

So take that next step.
Even if your knees shake.
Even if your emotions yell.
Even if it's not cute and comfortable.

Because **obedience is where disciples become dangerous (in the best way!)**—and your life becomes a living testimony that Jesus is Lord.

Guided Prayer

“Lord Jesus, I choose obedience over convenience. Help me deny myself, take up my cross daily, and follow You with a steady heart. Teach me to do Your Word, not just know it. Amen.”

Stephanie Smith Ministries – Where Bible Besties Grow in the Word Together.
Lesson researched and written by: Stephanie Smith – Bible Teacher, Evangelist, Christian
Author, and Publisher - January 11, 2026 www.TheBibleClassroom.com
The Bible Classroom – Rooted in Scripture. Led by the Spirit. Living for Jesus.