

1st John
Knowing God

If you want to know who really knows God, just ask
two simple, powerful questions.
1 John 2:3-11

THE PASSAGE: 1 John 2:3-11

TWO POWERFUL QUESTIONS:

1) The *Obedience* question: *Am I* _____?
1 John 2:3-6 Titus 1:16 Hebrews 10:26-27 Ezekiel 18:24

Those who know God obey even when _____.
Proverbs 3:5-8 & 16:25 Hebrews 11:6

Those who know God obey even when _____.
Isaiah 55:8-9 Hebrews 11:8-19 Romans 12:1-2

Those who know God obey even when _____.
Hebrews 5:7-8 Hebrews 11:24-27 (Moses) 2 Timothy 3:12

2) The *Love* question: *Is there a brother* _____?
1 John 2:9-11 Luke 9:51-56 & Mark 3:17
Matthew 18:21-35 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

Those who know God _____.
Romans 12:17-21 2 Timothy 4:14-16

Those who hold onto a grudge – _____!
Colossians 3:13

_____.

_____.

_____.

1. Joseph's experience after he discovered his fiancée Mary was pregnant is a good example of the obedience Larry spoke about this past weekend. After reading **Matthew 1:18-25**, list some of the possible ways that Joseph's obedience in marrying Mary was inconvenient, didn't make sense, or brought temporary pain.

Have you experienced a time in your spiritual journey when you obeyed God even when it was either inconvenient, didn't make sense, or brought temporary pain (or all three)?

2. The Apostle Paul was a man who lived a life of obedience even when it was challenging and difficult. In **2 Corinthians 11:23-29**, Paul lists some of the things he had to endure in order to carry out the ministry God entrusted to him.

What do you think motivated Paul to willingly go through so much to be obedient?

How does **2 Corinthians 4:13-18** help explain what motivated Paul

What is most helpful in this passage for motivating you towards obedience?

3. The story of King Saul is the story of a man who repeatedly failed to obey God completely. One such incident is recorded

in **1 Samuel 13:5-14**. After reading it, answer the following questions:

What do you think could have been going through Saul's mind while he waited for Samuel?

What excuses did Saul use to rationalize his actions?

What are some other excuses/rationalizations people come up with for not completely obeying what God wants?

Like Saul, most people struggle at times with selective obedience (picking and choosing what they'll obey). Are there any roadblocks that might hinder or keep you from moving away from selective obedience? If so, what are they?

4. In **1 John 2:6** it says, "Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus did." Can you think of something from Jesus' life or from this weekend's message that could serve as an example you would like to follow?

5. How would you complete the following statements?

Forgiveness can be a challenge when ...

Obedience can be a challenge when...