

# TO **OBEY**

## IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE

(1 Samuel 15:1-35)

### Part 2

1. The sin of disobedience **GRIEVES** God's heart. (*Genesis 6:6; Psalm 78:40; Isaiah 63:10; Ephesians 4:30; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; Luke 6:46*)
2. The sin of **PRIDE** is always at odds with obedience to God. (*Proverbs 16:18; James 4:6; Galatians 6:3; Jeremiah 9:23-24; 1 Corinthians 10:12*)
3. Pointing a finger and making excuses is not the way to **RESPOND** to our **SIN**. (*Genesis 3:12-15; Acts 5:29; Romans 2:1; James 1:14; Psalm 32:3-4; Proverbs 28:13-14; Galatians 6:5*)
4. **NO** giving, serving, sacrificing - *nothing* we do means **ANYTHING** to God if we are living in disobedience (*verse 22-23; Hosea 6:6; Matthew 9:13; Isaiah 1:11, 65:3; Psalm 50:8-14, 51:16-17; Jeremiah 6:20; Micah 6:6-8*)
5. A change of **TUNE** is no good without a change of **HEART**. (*Matthew 3:8; 2 Corinthians 7:9-10; Jeremiah 31:19; Romans 2:5, 29; Colossians 3:17; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Ezekiel 11:19; Psalm 51:10; Mark 7:21-23*)
6. God's blessings can't be **DEMANDED**.
7. Sin **SEPARATES** us from those who could be our greatest help. (*Psalm 1:1-2; 1 Corinthians 15:33; Job 15:34; Micah 3:4; Isaiah 59:2; 1 John 1:7-8*)



# Taking it further to help you **THRIVE...**

THRIVE Groups are where life and growth take place.

We don't want to just say "See you next week" as we leave each Sunday - we want to connect!

[For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit [thrivekg.org/thrive-groups](http://thrivekg.org/thrive-groups).]

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Saul contended that he had been obedient (when he obviously had NOT been). Saul wanted to offer a sacrifice to God from that which God had told him to utterly destroy. What would make Saul think these were good ideas? In what ways do we see this same kind of faulty thinking acted upon today? What do we learn about how God views disobedience (**verse 23**)?
3. Perhaps Saul thought that worship and sacrifice could make up for the sin he had committed - but that is not the case. Why? What other benefits might we be tempted to think engaging in religion will yield for us? In what ways can we elevate religious ritual above relationship with God?
4. One excuse Saul gave for not obeying God was that he feared the people (**verse 24**). In what instances are we more concerned with what people think that with what God thinks? What actions does this lead to?
5. Saul uttered the words, "*I have sinned*" (**verse 24,30**), but what are the indicators that this was just lip service? What does a changed heart 'look' like? If Saul's heart had been right, what would have been different in chapter 15 (and beyond)?
6. One big consequence of Saul's sins was the loss of a close relationship with Samuel (**verse 35**). Indeed, sin separates us from Godly influences. What else did Saul's sins separate him from? What else does sin separate *us* from?

