



Characteristic 2: Governed by the Authority of God's Word - John 8:31-32

Memory Verse: John 8:31-32 "So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, 'If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'"

1. In John 8:31-32, Jesus says true disciples "abide" in His Word. What is the difference between occasionally hearing God's Word and actually abiding in it? Where do you see that difference in your own life?

2. The sermon asked, "Do you believe the Bible is the true, authoritative Word of God? And if so, do you live like it is?" Where is there currently a gap between what you say you believe about Scripture and how you actually live?

3. In Genesis 3:1-5, the serpent begins by questioning God's Word: "Did God actually say?" Where are you most tempted to question, soften, or explain away what God has clearly said?

4. In John 17:17, Jesus prays, "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth." How has God's Word corrected, challenged, or reshaped you recently? Did you receive it, resist it, or avoid it?

5. The sermon talked about cognitive dissonance, saying we often claim to believe something but live differently. Looking at James 1:22-25, where are you tempted to be a hearer of the Word but not a doer?

6. In Matthew 7:24-27, Jesus says the wise person builds their life on His words and obeys them. What area of your life feels like it is being built on sand right now: emotions, opinions, fear, culture, control, or comfort?

7. The sermon said, "You don't believe what the Bible says. You believe what you actually obey." What is one clear step of obedience God is calling you to take this week in response to His Word?