

ALTARED

Scriptures Used:

Saul's Disobedience & Contrast with Obedience

- 1 Samuel 13:13
 - 1 Samuel 15:22–23
 - 1 Samuel 9:21
 - 1 Samuel 15:17
 - 1 Samuel 14:48
 - 1 Samuel 14:52
 - 1 Samuel 9
 - 1 Samuel 16:23
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Living Sacrifice & Obedience

- Romans 12:1
 - Psalm 118:27
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Jesus' Prayer – Revelation, Preservation, Determination

- John 17:6
- John 17:15–17
- Luke 22:43–44

Altared – Week 3: An Altar of Sacrifice

I. Review: Saul vs. David (1 Samuel 13, 15)

- Saul struggled with obedience: acting before hearing, sacrificing without instruction.

1 Samuel 13:13 (NLT)

“How foolish!” Samuel exclaimed. “You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you...”

- Saul's excuses masked rebellion.

1 Samuel 15:22–23 (NLT)

“Obedience is better than sacrifice... Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft...”

✓ Key Truth: God is more pleased by obedience than ritual or performance.

II. Living Sacrifice – Romans 12:1

Romans 12:1 (ESV)

“...present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”

- If we’ve built an altar of worship and an altar of repentance, this is the next natural response.
 - God wants obedient hearts, not clever justifications.
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III. Pray and Obey – Simple Faith, Lasting Fruit

- Dr. David Yonggi Cho: “I pray, and I obey.”
 - True obedience doesn’t shift with emotion or convenience.
 - Ask yourself:
 - Does what I’m hearing from God line up with His Word?
 - Does His direction endure past a single service?
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IV. Bind the Sacrifice

Psalm 118:27 (NKJV)

“Bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.”

- **God is calling us to sacrifice our plans, our control, and even our comfort.**
 - **When we don’t tie ourselves to the altar, we’re tempted to crawl off it.**
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V. Three Areas to Obey as Living Sacrifices

1. Revelation – John 17:6

“I have revealed you to the ones you gave me... they have kept your word.”

 **Pray:** Lord, help us to see You clearly and obey what You’ve shown.

2. Preservation – John 17:15–17

“Keep them safe from the evil one... Make them holy by your truth...”

 **Pray:** God, preserve our walk in a world of distractions.

3. Determination – Luke 22:43–44

“He prayed more fervently... His sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood.”

 **Pray:** Lord, give us strength to stay faithful and endure with resolve.

VI. A Surrendered Heart

Ruth Calkin's Prayer – “Take Over”

“Don’t take sides, Lord, just take over.”

- **When we pray this, we’re not offering God a piece of our lives—we’re giving Him the whole altar.**