

Memory Verse:

"Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart."

~First Peter 1:22 / ESV



Read First Peter 1:22 again, why is obedience an important part of our relationship with God and others?

**Stay on point of the questions provided*

Main Idea: A genuine disciple puts into practice the plans and purposes of the Father.

Context: This parable was shared with the chief priests and elders to reveal their hypocrisy in rejecting both John the Baptist and Jesus

The Account (v. 28-30): A father asks his two sons to work in his vineyard. The first son refuses to go at first, but later decides to go, while the second son agrees to work but never actually goes.

The Meaning (v. 31-32): Jesus illustrates that the religious leaders, who claim to serve God but do not, resemble the second son, while tax collectors and prostitutes, who are outcasts that repent, resemble the first son, demonstrating true obedience.

The Message: Taking action, seeking repentance, and fulfilling God's will are more important than simply speaking words of obedience.

Applicational Principles:

1. Change my way of thinking by getting on God's path

Matthew 21:28-29 / CSB, "What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'My son, go work in the vineyard today.' 29 "He answered, 'I don't want to,' but later he changed his mind and went."

Psalm 119:147-149 / NLT, "I stay awake through the night, thinking about your promise. 149 In your faithful love, O Lord, hear my cry; let me be revived by following your regulations."

Ephesians 4:23 / CEV, "Let the Spirit change your way of thinking..."

2. Focus on fulfilling my promises to God.

Matthew 21:30-31 / CSB, "When the man went to the other and said the same thing. 'I will, sir,' he answered, but he didn't go. **31** Which of the two did his father's will?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, tax collectors and harlots are entering the kingdom of God before you."

Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 / NLT, "*When you make a promise to God, don't delay in following through, for God takes no pleasure in fools. Keep all the promises you make to him. 5 It is better to say nothing than to make a promise and not keep it.*"

Proverbs 20:25 / NLT, "*Don't trap yourself by making a rash promise to God and only later counting the cost.*"

3. _____ from (religious) pride to put God's

Word into practice.

Matthew 21:32 / CSB, "For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you didn't believe him. Tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; but you, when you saw it, didn't even change your minds then and believe him."

Matthew 7:24-25 / NIV, "*Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.*"

Discussion Questions:



1. Which son actually did the will of the father, and why?
2. What does this parable teach us about the relationship between words and actions in our faith?
3. How does this story highlight the danger of "saying yes" to God but not living it out?