

Feb 4th – Obey and Believe Part 1

The Spirit present from the beginning leads us to the father by teaching us his words, reminding us of who Christ is, and working in our lives. Where do we see the spirit in scripture and what business is he about?

Scriptures:

Genesis 1:1-5

John 14:1-21, 25-27

Key Takeaways

1. The Unity of God
2. Obedience Precedes Full Understanding
3. The Spirit as a Helper and Reminder
4. Making Our Lives a Home for God

Discussion Questions

1. In verse 9, Jesus asks Philip, "*Don't you know me, Philip, even after I've been among you for such a long time?*" Why do you think the disciples struggled to understand that seeing Jesus meant seeing the Father? What does this reveal about human nature?
2. Jesus says in verse 11, "*Believe me...or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.*" What "works" or evidence had the disciples witnessed? What evidence do we have today?
3. What does Jesus mean when He says the Holy Spirit will "*remind you of everything I have said to you*" (v. 26)? How is this different from learning something completely new?
4. The discussion mentioned that we often want to know "*the one answer*" that will make everything make sense. Have you ever felt this way in your spiritual life? Are you still seeking the one answer and if not how do you see this differently now?
5. Jesus gives a conditional statement: "*If you love me, keep my commands.*" What commands of Jesus do you find most challenging to obey? Why?
6. The lesson talked about how the Holy Spirit helps us remember Scripture when we need it most. Can you share a time when God brought a verse or biblical truth to mind at just the right moment?
7. The lesson emphasized "Obey and Believe" rather than just "See and Believe." Is there a specific teaching of Jesus you know you should be obeying but haven't started yet? What's holding you back?
8. Verse 23 says God will "make our home with them" when we obey. What does it mean practically to make your life a welcoming environment for the Holy Spirit? What might need to change?

9. The discussion mentioned that pointing people to Scripture gives authority beyond our own opinions. Does this give you comfort when discussing your faith with someone? Why? In what ways do you equip yourself to be ready to share the truth?
10. The discussion encouraged us to "go forward" and "do greater work for God" rather than beating ourselves up for past failures. What opportunities do you have right now to live out Christ's teachings?

Closing Reflection

Read John 14:27 together: *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*

Discuss: How does understanding that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are with us and in us bring peace to your current circumstances?