

Obedience: Following God's Instructions

"One Step at a Time"

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." — Psalm 119:105

The footprint reminds us that obedience is often taking the next step God has placed before us, even when we cannot see the entire path.

- Have you ever walked in someone else's footprints in the sand or snow?
- Was it easier to know where to step?

Following footprints requires trust. You don't always know where the path leads, but you know someone has gone before you.

As Christians, Jesus has already shown us the path. Obedience is choosing to follow His footsteps.

Scripture 1: Psalm 119:105

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (on the bookmark)

Notice the verse says a lamp to our feet—not a spotlight showing ten miles ahead. God often reveals only the next step. Many times we want God to show us:

- The entire plan
- Every answer
- Every outcome

Instead, He asks us to trust Him one step at a time.

Application: Obedience begins with the next step, not the entire journey.

- What is the next step God is asking me to take?
- Am I waiting for more information before I obey?

Scripture 2: Luke 11:28

"Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

Jesus teaches that blessing comes not just from hearing God's Word but from obeying it. Many people know what God says. The challenge is putting it into practice.

Examples:

- Forgiving someone who hurt us
- Loving difficult people
- Serving others
- Giving generously
- Sharing our faith

Illustration: A recipe does not help if we only read it and never follow it. God's Word works the same way.

What truth from God's Word do I need to start living out today?

Scripture 3: Joshua 6:1-5, 20

The Walls of Jericho

God gave Joshua unusual instructions:

- March around the city once a day for six days.
- March seven times on the seventh day.
- Blow the trumpets.
- Shout.

It probably didn't make sense. But Joshua obeyed. And the walls fell.

Discussion: Sometimes God's instructions won't make sense from a human perspective. Obedience requires trusting God's wisdom over our own.

Application: What "Jericho wall" are you facing? Perhaps God is asking you to:

- Keep praying.
- Keep serving.
- Keep trusting.
- Keep forgiving.

Even when you don't yet see results.

God rarely asks us to run the whole race at once. He asks us to take the next faithful step.

Three Truths About Obedience

1. Obedience Demonstrates Trust

When we obey God, we show that we trust Him.

2. Obedience Often Comes Before Understanding

Joshua didn't fully understand God's plan for Jericho, but he obeyed anyway.

3. Obedience Leads to Blessing

God honors hearts that follow Him faithfully.

The blessing may not always come immediately, but God is always faithful.

Closing Challenge

This week, place your footprint bookmark in your Bible. Every time you see it, ask:

 "Am I following Jesus' footsteps today?"

Don't focus on the entire journey. Focus on the next step of obedience.