

Welcome to Calvary Chapel of Hilo

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885 Kilauea Avenue, Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Sunday Morning - 9:00 A.M. "GOD AT WORK IN YOU" Phil. 2:12-13

Next Week - "STOP THAT GRUMBLING" Phil. 2:14-16

Wednesday Morning Studies

9:30 A.M. at the Church – 2 Samuel 14B

A LIFE LONG LEARNER

In *Teaching to Change Lives*, Howard Hendricks tells about an 83-year-old Michigan woman he met at a Sunday school convention in Chicago.

"In a church with a Sunday school of only 65 people, she taught a class of 13 junior high boys. She had traveled by bus all the way to Chicago the night before the convention. Why? In her words, 'to learn something that would make me a better teacher.'

"I thought at the time, most people who had a class of 13 junior high boys in a Sunday school of only 65 would be breaking their arms to pat themselves on the back: 'Who, me? Go to a Sunday school convention? I could teach it myself!' But not this woman.

"Eighty-four boys who sat under her teaching are now in full-time vocational ministry. Twenty-two are graduates of the seminary where I teach."

Discipleship Journal

Heartwarming Illustrations, ed. Richard A. Jr. Steele and Evelyn Stoner

OURS TO OBEY, HIS TO MAKE WAY

A pilot was having trouble bringing his plane down to land. From the control tower, he was given instructions. "But there is a pole there," he objected. The answer came back, "You take care of the instructions; we will take care of the obstructions."

So, with the child of God. In the Word, he or she has God's instructions. God will take care of the obstructions. It is ours to obey the instructions from God's Word.

Make it the first morning business of your life to understand some part of the Bible clearly, and make it your daily business to obey it in all that you do understand.

John Ruskin

John Blanchard, ed., The Complete Gathered Gold

It is much safer to obey than to govern.

Thomas à Kempis.

OBEDIENCE

Greek expression: *hupakoē* - Strong's Number: <G5218>

How often have parents wished that they had obedient children. All too frequently, children won't listen to their parents or do what they ask. The Greek word for "obedience," *hupakoē*, means "to hear what someone in authority is requesting and then act upon it." In other words, to obey is to submit to the command of one in authority; it is to be compliant with the demands or requests of someone over us.

Jesus Himself set the example for what true obedience means. On the night of His betrayal, He told His disciples that His love for the Father was evidenced by His obeying the Father's commands (John 14:31). That command meant that Jesus took on human form to live in subservience to His Father, and to eventually die on the cross. Jesus emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant; He humbled Himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross (Phil. 2:7-8). In other words, Jesus was compliant with the requirements of a human death, even though He was and is God.

Jesus also told His disciples that love for Him is measured by obedience to His commandments (John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10). Therefore, a person who claims to be a child of God demonstrates this by showing continued obedience to the commandments of God (1 John 2:3-5). Christians are called upon by God to be obedient to a variety of people: believers to the Lord (John 14:21-24; 15:10), wives to their husbands (Eph. 5:22-24; Col. 3:18; Titus 2:5; 1 Pet. 3:1, 5), children to their parents (Eph. 6:1; Col. 3:20), citizens to their governmental officials (Rom. 13:1-7; Titus 3:1; 1 Pet. 2:13-14), and servants to their masters (Eph. 6:5; Col. 3:22; Titus 2:9; 1 Pet. 2:18).

KEY VERSES - Romans 1:5, 5:19, 15:18; Hebrews 5:8; 1 Peter 1:2
In spite of the emphasis on obedience in the Bible, such obedience is not the grounds for justification before God. Paul declares that salvation is a gift of God that will produce good works (Eph. 2:8-10). In the same way, James speaks of works of obedience as flowing from faith (James 2:14-26). Thus, our obedience to God is the result of putting our faith in Him (Rom. 1:5).

Holman Treasury of Key Bible Words: 200 Greek and 200 Hebrew Words Defined and Explained.