

## I AM GIVEN A TASK



14

Each member is mature in the discipline of obeying the King.

## OBEDIENCE

As we spend time with Him and learn His Word, we are attentive to the ways God reveals Himself to us and communicates His will to us. As He does, we allow our lives to be molded by Him; we find our greatest joy in loving Christ and obeying Him. Spending time with our King changes what we do; our lives reflect Christ's desires that we find in the Bible and are confirmed by His spirit and His church.

**John 14:15** "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

**John 15:14** "You are my friends if you do what I command you."

In John 14 and 15 Jesus is talking with his disciples during the Last Supper. This is the final discourse of Christ before his crucifixion, so it contains many important messages He knew His disciples would need. Have John 14 and 15 available as you go through this lesson.

## LOVE AND OBEDIENCE

It is interesting to note how Jesus connects love and obedience during this discourse. "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" gives us some insight into Christ's view of His disciples. This is not the command of a military leader or a micro-managing boss, it is something else and it is foundational for them and for us.

## Q. Is there anywhere in your life where love and obedience connected together in a similar fashion?

One relationship we have that might reflect love and obedience coming together is the parent-child relationship. Early on we learn to obey our parents, often through their encouragement and discipline. Hopefully, over time, we are compelled to obey them through our devotion and respect for them. We might even learn to hold our love for them above our love for ourselves and our own desires.

## JESUS AND THE FATHER

**Matthew 22:37-38** And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.”

Notice how Jesus connects love and obedience here by quoting Deuteronomy 6:5. It is a command to love the Lord, and an opportunity for God’s people to obey. Not only did He tell us to do this, but He spent His life as an example of what loving God and obeying Him looks like. This complete love and obedience set Him apart from everyone else in the world.

**John 14:21** “Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

Jesus is giving you that same opportunity. You can show the world your loving friendship with Jesus by obeying Him above everything else. He said He and the Father are one, and to obey Him is to obey the Father. To love Jesus is to love the Father and our love for them comes through devotion.

## JESUS' COMMANDS

Read John 15:12-17

**Q. If you show your love for Jesus and your friendship with Him through obedience, what does that look like every day?**

Read I Corinthians 13.

**Q. Why do you think Jesus commanded you to “love one another as I have loved you?” Why does it matter so much?**

## SUMMARY

Jesus Christ calls us his friends if we do what He commands us to do. His first command is to love Him as He loves the Father and when we do, we are actually loving the Father because Jesus and the Father are one. This is our foundation for everything else. (KMI 1)

Then He commands us to love one another, so show the world who He and the Father are. Our love for each other and our devotion to God reveal God to the world. This is our primary role as God's people here on earth. (KMI 2)

**Matthew 22:36-40** “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

## LEADERSHIP CONNECTIONS QUESTION

**Q. Where do you tend to disobey God in your business? Where have you recently sensed God calling you to obedience in your leadership? What are the potential results of disobedience?**

## RESOURCES FOR NEXT STEPS

- **Bible Reading**  
[| Corinthians 13 | CSB Bible | YouVersion | The Bible App | BibleBible.com](#)
- **RightNow Media @WorkStudy**  
**Love Works**  
[https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/420191\](https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/420191)
- **Read**  
**Love Works: Seven Timeless Principles for Effective Leaders: Joel Manby**  
<https://www.amazon.com/Love-Works-Timeless-Principles-Effective/dp/0310335671>