

Open Before Christmas: Four Gifts That Show Jesus Your Love

Showing Jesus My Love by Being Obedient

November 28, 2010

Pastor Warner Smith

Series Truth:

Society and the church have agreed that the giving of gifts is the socially acceptable way to celebrate the birth of Christ. But what gifts, and to whom should they be given, and is this what Jesus taught us? Could our current practice have more to do with our acceptance of hidden worldviews than with the clear and convincing teaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ? I believe so! Therefore, over the next four weeks we will endeavor to discover what gifts those who claim His name should give Jesus every day and not just at Christmas.

Series Text:

⁶ "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸ He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but **to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?** Micah 6:6–8 (ESV)

1. Obedience to God has always been v_____.

²⁴ And the people said to Joshua, "We will serve the LORD our God and **obey** him." Joshua 24:24

2. Obedience to God is not volitional for the e_____.

²⁷ The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they **obey** him." Mark 1:27

3. Obedience to God is not volitional for n_____.

⁴¹ They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves **obey** him!" Mark 4:41

4. In fact, if our faith is b_____ enough nature must obey us as it did Christ.

⁶ He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will **obey** you. Luke 17:6

5. Obedience is a _____ to follow belief.

³⁶ "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not **obey** the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." John 3:36 (NASB)

6. The apostles understood that obedience to God was not o_____ - regardless of their c_____.

²⁹ Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must **obey** God rather than men!" Acts 5:29

7. Even the Christian's t_____ are to be made obedient to Christ.

⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it **obedient** to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:5

8. Failing to obey is understood to be f_____.

⁷ You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from **obeying** the truth? Galatians 5:7

9. Obedience is required even when you are a_____.

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always **obeyed** — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, Philippians 2:12

10. One cannot separate k_____ God from o_____ the gospel.

⁸ [Christ] He will punish those who do not know God and do not **obey the gospel** of our Lord Jesus. 2 Thessalonians 1:8

11. Obedience to the teaching of Scripture is a prerequisite for Christian f_____.

¹⁴ If anyone does not **obey** our instruction in this letter, take special note of him. Do not associate with him, in order that he may feel ashamed. 2 Thessalonians 3:14

According to this teaching, there is a place for shunning brothers or sisters who are disobedient to the gospel and continue to practice that disobedience even after they are warned and instructed of the error of their ways.

12. Peter does not see any hope of s_____ for those who do not obey the gospel.

¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not **obey the gospel** of God? 1 Peter 4:17

13. John teaches that obedience is how one k_____ that he is a child of God.

² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and **obey** his commandments. 1 John 5:2 (ESV)

14. In fact, obedience is to be so much a part of the Christian's lifestyle that in our homes children are to o_____ their parents.

¹ Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

² "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise—³ "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:1–4

15. Dad, you are not supposed to misuse your position of power so as to cause your children to lose h_____.

16. In fact, obedience is to be so much a part of the Christian's lifestyle that in the church it is required not only of the gospel but also of church l_____.

¹⁷ **Obey** your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. **Obey** them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. Hebrews 13:17

17. The obedience mentioned here is specifically intended for those who s_____, or teach the Word to the church.

⁷ Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. **Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.** Hebrews 13:7