Summary of Faith Walkers - Obedience To The Faith

Created on August 23, 2026 at 10:33 AM by Notee: AI Note Taker — https://notee.onelink.me/E2m8/04kb04rp

---

Faith Walk: Obedience To The Faith

This gathering was a church teaching and worship service focused on what it means to be a "faith walker." The central message was that Christian obedience should flow from trust in Jesus and the finished work of grace, rather than from fear, self-effort, or an attempt to earn God's acceptance. The service included biblical teaching, interactive questions, illustrations, prayer, declarations, worship, announcements, and a brief financial-literacy segment.

1. Faith Means Dependence on God

The teaching began by reviewing lessons from the previous weeks:

- Faith was defined as dependence upon God.
- Faith involves emptying oneself of self-confidence and self-dependence so that one can trust God's character, wisdom, and promises.
- Believers are called to live from God's promises rather than for them or merely according to their perceptions.
- Perception tells people what they see, hear, and feel. Faith does not deny those facts, but refuses to allow them to have the final word.
- God's promises should become the lens through which believers interpret every situation.
- Perception tends to react, while faith responds to what God has said.

Abraham was presented as an example of responding to God's promise before circumstances appeared favorable. Paul and Silas were also referenced as examples of continuing to pray and trust God while still imprisoned. A faith-filled person does not wait until everything looks right before agreeing with God.

The speaker emphasized that faith does not create God's promises. Grace has

already provided what God promised, and faith receives and lives from that provision. Christians are not working toward victory in order to obtain it; because of Jesus, they are learning to live from a victory that has already been accomplished.

2. The Central Question: What Does Obedience Look Like?

The main question for the service was: **If Jesus has already finished the work, what does obedience look like in a faith walk?**

The word "obedience" often sounds like a list of rules, requirements, and performance standards: pray more, read the Bible, avoid certain behaviors, and try harder. The message distinguished between obeying in order to qualify for God's acceptance and responding in faith because Jesus has already qualified the believer.

The contrast was summarized as follows:

- The law asks, "What must I do to qualify?"
- Faith asks, "What has Jesus already done, and will I believe it?"
- Law-based obedience trusts human performance.
- Faith-based obedience trusts Jesus' performance.
- Christian behavior does matter, but it should flow from a new identity in Christ rather than being used to purchase acceptance.

The speaker explained that many believers still approach God as if they must earn acceptance. They may pray, study Scripture, control their speech, and avoid wrongdoing primarily because they fear God will reject them if they fail. The New Covenant, however, is based on Jesus' death, resurrection, and finished work. Those who receive Christ are described as new creations with a new nature.

The desired pattern is not, "I behave well so God will accept me." It is, "Jesus has accepted and transformed me, so His life can now flow through my behavior."

3. Understanding the Old and New Covenants

The service warned against reading biblical passages without considering their covenantal context. The speaker used Deuteronomy 28:1-2 to illustrate the Old Covenant, where blessing was connected to complete obedience to the law. James 2:10 was also cited to show that failure in one part of the law makes a

person accountable for the whole law.

The key points were:

- The law establishes a complete standard, not a partial or proportional one.
- A person cannot choose a few commands to follow and treat the remaining commands as optional.
- The law exposes sin, but it does not have the power to transform the sinner into a righteous person.
- Applying Old Covenant conditions directly to New Covenant believers can produce a performance-based life.

Romans 3:20 and 3:22 were used to explain that no one is made right with God by observing the law. The law reveals sin, while God makes people right through faith—or dependence—on Jesus Christ. Everyone who believes is included on the same basis.

The speaker compared the law to a mirror. A mirror can reveal a blemish, but it cannot heal or transform the person who sees the blemish. In the same way, the law can reveal what is wrong, but only Jesus provides the transformational power required to make a person righteous.

4. Obedience to Faith Begins in the Heart

The second major teaching point was that obedience to faith begins internally. It is not merely doing the right thing externally; it is believing the right thing about Jesus and allowing that belief to shape one's life.

Romans 1:5 and Romans 16:25-26 were referenced in connection with the phrase "the obedience of faith." The speaker repeatedly returned to the idea that belief comes first and behavior follows. Believers are called to depend on God rather than relying on yesterday's performance, mistakes, or successes to determine their identity.

A major warning concerned shame. It is easy to have a bad day or make a poor decision and then conclude, "I am a bad person." The message rejected that conclusion. A believer may make a mistake, but the believer is not the mistake. Identity must be grounded in Christ rather than in failure.

The speaker also addressed a personal example involving a woman who blamed herself for another person's lack of self-control. The point was that people often

accept responsibility for actions that were committed against them or for choices made by someone else. Believers must distinguish between genuine conviction and destructive shame.

5. Fruit Reveals Life; It Does Not Create Life

The speaker used a tree and its fruit to explain how Christian behavior should operate:

- Fruit does not make a tree alive.
- Fruit is the result, not the source, of life.
- A person cannot attach fruit to a dead tree and make it alive.
- Fruit reveals the life already flowing through the tree.

Likewise, Christian behavior should not be used to purchase spiritual life or acceptance. It should flow from the life of Christ already within the believer. Jesus is the vine, and believers are the branches. Branches do not strain to produce life independently; they remain connected to the vine.

The believer's responsibility is therefore to remain in Christ, remain grounded in God's promises, and allow the Holy Spirit to produce love, patience, self-control, and other godly qualities. These qualities are supplies of grace, not achievements that earn grace.

6. Grace Moves Believers from Demand to Supply

The third major point was that grace changes the believer's perspective from demand to supply.

- The law explains what righteousness demands.
- Grace reveals what Jesus has supplied.
- The law says, "Do this."
- Grace says, "Receive what has already been provided."

Galatians 3:5-14 was referenced to show that God works through people who believe, not through people who attempt to establish righteousness by law-keeping. Abraham was presented as an example: he believed God, and that belief was counted as righteousness.

The speaker emphasized that it is impossible for anyone to keep all 613

commands of the law perfectly. The practical focus for believers should not be mastering every legal requirement, but knowing and depending on Jesus.

Generosity was used as a practical example. A Christian should not give clothing, money, or assistance to someone in need in order to persuade God to bless them. Rather, the believer gives because grace has already supplied them and made them a blessing to others. The correct motivation is, "I am blessed to be a blessing."

7. Rest Demonstrates Trust in Jesus' Finished Work

The fourth major point was that rest reveals where a person's confidence lies. Hebrews 4:3 and 4:9-11 were used to teach that God's people enter His rest by believing. Rest was defined not as inactivity, but as freedom from striving to make God do something Jesus has already finished.

The speaker compared grace to a fully paid airline ticket. A traveler who has already received a paid ticket does not stand at the gate trying to pay the pilot again. The person's responsibility is simply to trust what has been provided and board the plane. In the same way:

- Grace has already paid for the believer's provision and acceptance.
- Faith is how the believer boards or participates in what grace has supplied.
- Obedience is dependence, not self-powered striving.
- Believers live from victory, not for victory.

The service challenged attendees to identify areas where they are still striving because they do not fully trust that Jesus' work is enough. Possible areas included relationships, emotional wounds, fear of rejection, health, and personal performance.

8. Managing Emotions, Speech, and Thought Patterns

A substantial portion of the message addressed emotional reactions and the power of words. The speaker stated, "When emotions are high, wisdom is low," and encouraged people to pause and remain quiet when angry rather than making permanent decisions during temporary emotional intensity.

A relationship illustration showed how quickly people can move away from godly wisdom after a breakup. Two young people initially made a mature decision to

step back from a relationship so they could focus more on God. However, hurt, jealousy, public opinions, and impulsive behavior quickly created unnecessary confusion and drama.

The lesson was that people can know the right decision but abandon it when they allow their emotions to control them. Hurt people often hurt others, and the surrounding environment can disciple people if they do not intentionally allow healthy spiritual relationships to guide them.

The speaker also discussed the difference between the spirit, soul, and body:

- The spirit represents the believer's identity in Christ.
- The soul includes thoughts, feelings, desires, and choices.
- The body includes the brain and learned neurological patterns.

Through repeated thoughts and words, people can reinforce negative patterns. The concept of neuroplasticity was used to explain why repeatedly saying, "I hate this place," may train the mind to search for everything wrong with that place. Conversely, declaring trust in God can help redirect attention toward evidence of God's faithfulness.

Believers were encouraged to fight negative thoughts with truthful, faith-filled words rather than allowing destructive thoughts to remain unchallenged.

9. Questions for Personal Reflection

Pastor Anthony but encouraged them to meditate on several questions:

- When you think about God, is your first instinct to perform for acceptance or receive what Jesus has already done?
- Are your Christian actions flowing from relationship and belief, or from fear that God will reject you if you fail?
- How would your relationship with God change if you stopped trying to earn what Jesus has already secured?
- Where are you still striving because you do not fully trust that Jesus' work is enough?
- Are you allowing emotions to override wisdom and the direction of the Holy Spirit?
- Are your words reinforcing fear and shame, or are they aligned with God's

promises?

Overall Decisions and Takeaways

- Christian identity is based on Jesus' finished work, not personal performance.
- Obedience should be a response to grace and faith, not an attempt to earn acceptance.
- Believers should interpret circumstances through God's promises rather than perception alone.
- The law reveals sin but cannot make people righteous; Jesus provides transformation.
- Spiritual fruit flows from remaining connected to Christ.
- Rest and trust are evidence that a believer depends on Jesus.
- Emotional reactions should not override wisdom or produce harmful decisions.
- Speech should align with truth, faith, and God's promises.
- Attendees were encouraged to accept—not merely hear—the message and apply it through daily choices.