

March 1, 2026

West Hill

Church of Christ

All In

Obey With Only One Exception

By David Sproule

Focus 2026

In our postmodern world and ever-adapting culture, the concept of (and even the word) “obedience” is offensive to many and rejected as “oppressive” or “dictatorial.” Sometimes the discontent toward that subject even makes its way into the church and into Christian homes. Yet, the Bible gives clear instructions where obedience must be practiced in the Christian life. But is there ever an exception?

The Bible tells wives to obey their husbands. This can be pretty unpopular to mention in a wedding ceremony or marriage counseling, but Scripture is very clear. “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord” (Col. 3:18; cf. Eph. 5:22; 1 Pet. 3:1). “Older women” are instructed to “admonish the young women to...[be] obedient to” (NKJV) or “subject to” (NASB) “their husbands” (Tit. 2:3-5). Is that in all circumstances? Or are there any exceptions?

The Bible tells children to obey their parents. These verses are regular reminders to kids at home: “Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord” (Col. 3:20). This is essential for children as they “Honor [their] father and mother” (Eph. 6:1). Are there any exceptions to children obeying their parents?

The Bible tells church members to obey their elders. Again, in our society today, even Christians push back against this, but the Bible terminology is even stronger on this. Not only are we to “respect” our elders and “esteem them very highly” (1 Thess. 5:12-13, ESV), we are to “obey” them and “be submissive” (Heb. 13:17). These are not optional requests but are required commands. But, are there any exceptions?

The Bible tells citizens to obey their civil rulers. Even under the tyrannical Roman emperor Nero, Christians were commanded, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities” and not “resist” (Rom. 13:1-2). Rather than considering this to be optional, “you must be subject” (13:5). “Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake” (1 Pet. 2:13). But, again, are there any exceptions?

It’s interesting that humans seem to always be looking for the exception in rules and instructions. In these cases above, God gives ONE exception to the commands of obedience and submission. When commanded by rulers to stop preaching the gospel, the apostles affirmed, “We ought to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29). The ONLY exception to wives obeying their husbands, to children obeying their parents, to church members obeying their elders, to citizens obeying their civil rulers is if such would cause them to disobey God. Obeying God is foremost (cf. 1 Cor. 7:19b)! But, if it does not violate the law of God, then one must obey.

Sunday: Worship 10:30am & Class 5:00pm

Tuesday: Benevolence 9:00-10:00am & Young at Heart Class 10:30am

Wednesday: Class 6:30pm

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Email: office@westhillchurchofchrist.org • **Website:** westhillchurchofchrist.org

MARCHing All In: Bible Study

The Practices of God's People:

The Practices of God's People:

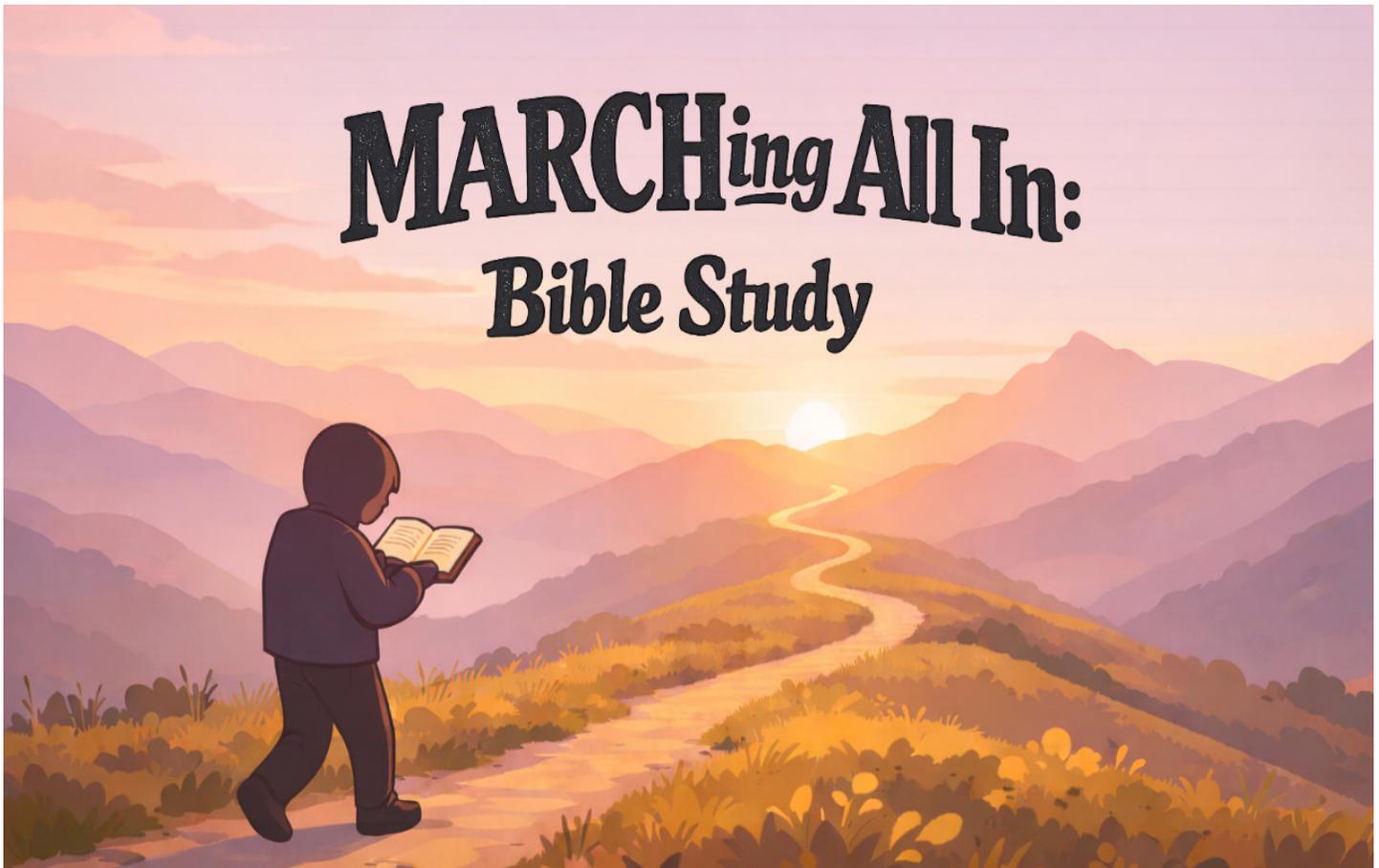
Challenges from Psalm 119

Avanzando con todo: Estudio bíblico

Las prácticas del pueblo de Dios:

Las prácticas del pueblo de Dios:

Retos del Salmo 119



March – May Adult Bible Classes

Adult Chapel Class (Sunday)

“Character Study of Abraham” – Rusty Owens

Adult Chapel Class (Wednesday)

Excellencies of Him – Justin Williams

Adult Family Room (Sunday)

“ALL IN Living” – Casey Hendrix & Greg Olsen

Adult Family Room (Wednesday)

Challenges Christians Face – Brandon Watson

College & Young Professional Class (Sunday)

Big Concepts...Small Steps - Brandon Watson

College & Young Professional Class (Wednesday)

Holy Living (1 Peter) – Jay Mahoney & Rusty Smith

First Wednesdays of the Month (March 4th)

We will have a Meal (This month's meal is Taco Soup) at 6:00 PM

Followed by classes for the kids in their original classrooms, and ONE combined class for the Adults & Youth Group at 6:30 PM in the Outreach Center

This month's Theme: DISCIPLESHIP



IMPACT
Night

Church Leadership & Westhill Works

Deacons

David Baumgartner - 903.654.4057
Zach Drain - 903.521.6055
Joshua Haden - 903.602.9645
Casey Hendrix - 817.307.2127
Michael Jones - 430.236.2244
Matt Newman - 972.935.5789
Greg Olsen - 903.654.1406
Billy Roughton - 903.654.4032
David Shastid - 903.257.6464
Jose Sosa - 903.872.0535
Brent Stewart - 903.641.9052
Mike Wylie - 214.837.3848
Justin Williams - 903.875.8288

Shepherds

Scott Barham - 903.641.0133
Percell Milton - 214.803.2644
Rusty Owens - 903.229.3650
Paul Stewart - 903.872.3464

Ministers

Anthony Warnes - 430.775.0196 (Pulpit)
Brandon Watson - 903.771.6359 (Family)

Staff

Jay Mahoney - 903.467.9093 (Office)

Community Outreach

Addiction [Recovery](#) Counseling
Benevolence Program

Food for Fitness
Forever His

Local Missions

Bear Valley - Wayne Jones
Cherokee Children's Home
Disaster Relief
The Jenkins Institute
Knoxville School of Preaching
Memphis School of Preaching
[WVBS school.wvbs.org](http://WVBS.school.wvbs.org)

U.S. Mission Points

Tilton, NH & Mesa, AZ

Foreign Missions

Cameroon Preacher Training
India Preacher Training

Prayer Needs:

David Mahoney — Procedure for his leg Monday.

Glyn Phillips — Pacemaker surgery Tuesday.

Barbara Gould — Knee surgery scheduled for March 3

Bronny Watson — Home from the hospital.

Don Ewing — Undergoing cancer treatment.

Martha Dowdle — Undergoing cancer treatment.

Robin Gaines — Experiencing health issues.

Our sympathy to those who have lost loved ones:

Loyce Wilborn (Eastside Church of Christ)

Vera White (North Beaton Church of Christ)

Continue to remember: Bronny & Ruth Watson, Dan & Rita Dominy, Eula Henry, Louie & Patty Williams, Nick Tooley, Bill & Beverly Abercrombie, Beverly Heathcote, David Mahoney, Millard & Martha Dowdle, Judi Olsen, Jim Milam, David Mahoney, & Myrna Haufe

This Week's Birthdays

March 1 - Eli Haden & Ericka Kinkade

March 3 - Cason Hendrix & Amy Parrish

March 4 - Anita Hawkins

March 6 - Mary Montfort & Johnna Smith

March 7 - Judy Green & Matt Newman

Records for February 22, 2026

AM Worship.....296

Contribution \$7,317

Visitor Form

Thank you for joining us for worship! We would love to follow-up with you...



Privileged to Serve

AM Song Leader

Joshua Haden

AM Opening Prayer

Paul Wells

Scripture Reading

Carson Barham

Communion Leader

Rusty Owens

Communion Servers

Caleb Jackson

Larry Rowden

Robby Thomas

Eli Haden

Mike Wylie

Joel Haden

Listan Ellis

Grayson Baumgartner

David Shastid

Matt Zaayer

AM Closing Prayer

Joel Haden

PM Song Leader

Jeremiah Parrish

PM Opening Prayer

Dillan Parrish

PM Devo

Anthony Warnes

PM Closing Prayer

Carson Barham

Wed. Song Leader

Paul Ross

Wed. Invitation

Brent Stewart

Mar. Worship Coord.

J. Mahoney / David Baum.

Mar. Elder of Month

Rusty Owens

Announcements:

Adult Classes — New Quarter begins today (see pg 3)

Youth (6th–12th) Area-Wide — Tonight in Groesbeck. Join us for worship, fellowship, and dinner. We will leave Westhill at 4:00pm and return at 8:00pm. Transportation provided — we will take the church bus.

Wed. Night Impact: March 4 — Meal at 6pm in the Outreach Center; new first-of-the-month format begins at 6:30pm.

Men's Breakfast - Mar. 13 @ 7am.

Westhill ARC (Addiction Recovery Counseling) meets weekly - contact Jay Mahoney

Staffed nursery available for babies up to 2 yr old. **Nursery Attendant** this week: **Britani Newman**