

MY RESISTANCE FOR OBEDIENCE



¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

JOHN 15:14-15

²¹ "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' ²³ And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

MATTHEW 7:13-23

While I resist change, I was designed for change and to live in obedience to God's will.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS:

- Check in with each other.
- Think about someone in your current family, family of origin or extended family that is known for being disobedient. Without sharing their name take a moment to describe what they do and how their disobedience impacts others.
- What are the rewards of disobedience that you think entices them to continue?
- Read John 15:14 above. Discuss the connection between obedience and friendship with Christ.
- Read Matthew 7:13-23 above. What point Jesus was trying to make to his listeners?
- Discuss your thoughts on what Christian obedience looks like.

HOW TO LOWER RESISTANCE & INCREASE OBEDIENCE

PRINCIPLE ONE | BE RECEPTIVE:

⁴ And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, ⁵ "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. ⁶ And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. ⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. ⁸ And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

LUKE 8:4-8



PRINCIPLE TWO | BUILD OBEDIENCE:

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. ²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. ²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

JAMES 1:19-27



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS:

- Where do you need to be more receptive?
- Where do you get stuck in the process of building obedience?
- What steps do you need to take to address these issues?