

A vibrant field of yellow flowers, likely rapeseed, stretches across the foreground and middle ground. In the background, a large tree with green leaves and clusters of yellow flowers stands against a bright, sunlit sky. The overall atmosphere is warm and peaceful.

*Woman*  
of NOBLE  
CHARACTER

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*Loved well to  
love well*

BARB WILSON

LESSON

# 1

## Commit to Obey God

*Direct my steps according to Your Word.*

*Let no sin rule over me.*

– PSALM 119:133



### Memory Verse

Colossians 3:17

And whatever  
you do or say,  
let it be as  
a representative  
of the Lord Jesus  
all the while  
giving thanks  
through Him to  
God the Father.



Your beliefs  
determine  
your behavior  
and your behavior  
reveals  
your beliefs.

## Lesson 1: Commit to Obey God

As we begin this life-changing, practical Bible study, it is crucial that we understand that God's ways are the only ways to live. His Word is our authority (2 Timothy 3:16) and His ways are perfect (Psalm 18:30). He created us, and the Bible is our guidebook. We can trust Him to instruct us in the best path for our lives. We are actually being foolish as well as sinful when we disobey Him. Therefore, our verses this week focus on obedience. Our obedience reveals our depth of love, trust, belief, knowledge, and submission for Jesus, our Savior.

### Prepare with Prayer:

You have charged us to keep Your commandments carefully. Oh, that my actions would consistently reflect Your principles! Then I will not be disgraced when I compare my life with Your commands. - Psalm 119:4-6 NLT

### Read Psalm 32:8-11

1. Who is speaking in verses 8 and 9?
2. What promises does He make in verse 8?
3. God promises to be directly involved in your learning, growth, and life. What hope and confidence does that give you as you begin this study?
4. What warning is given in verse 9?
5. We're all rebels at heart. In what ways are you stubborn or resistant to God's will?
6. "No understanding" in verse 9 means foolish or senseless. The Bible says we are what when we choose to disobey God?
7. Read the verses below and write down what each says about listening to instruction.
  - a. Proverbs 4:10-13
  - b. Proverbs 10:8

c. Proverbs 13:13

d. Colossians 2:8

8. List some possible sources of ungodly influences in your life:

### Class Notes

Definition of wisdom:

Knowing how to \_\_\_\_\_ the truth of God's \_\_\_\_\_ in every \_\_\_\_\_. It is the capacity to \_\_\_\_\_ the God-honoring way and involves \_\_\_\_\_ right from \_\_\_\_\_.

Definition of foolishness:

A \_\_\_\_\_ refusal to do what is \_\_\_\_\_; a rejection of God's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

A fool is not \_\_\_\_\_. You are teachable if:

1. You \_\_\_\_\_ receive criticism, \_\_\_\_\_, and input from \_\_\_\_\_.
2. There is \_\_\_\_\_, noticeable \_\_\_\_\_ in your life.
3. You do not \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ your mistakes and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. You are not always \_\_\_\_\_ the same sins \_\_\_\_\_.

9. Turn back to the Psalm 32 passage. Verse 10 mentions the Lord's unfailing love.

a. Describe "unfailing love" in your own words.

b. According to verse 10, what does this unfailing love do?



Every human being  
has an inborn  
determination  
to run his own life  
and an  
unwillingness  
to be mastered  
by Christ,  
the King of kings.

—

NANCY DEMOSS  
WOLGEMUTH



Joy is the  
natural outcome  
of the Christian's  
obedience  
to the revealed will  
of God.

—  
JOHN BLANCHARD

## **Grow Deeper**

What do you learn about fools from these verses?

- a. Proverbs 10:23
- b. Proverbs 12:15-16
- c. Proverbs 14:16
- d. Proverbs 15:5, 14, 21
- e. Proverbs 18:2
- f. Proverbs 20:3
- g. Proverbs 23:9
- h. Proverbs 28:26
- i. Proverbs 29:11

## **Class Notes**

Definition of hesed:

Hebrew word translated as God's \_\_\_\_\_ (ESV) or lovingkindness (NASB). We do not have an \_\_\_\_\_ word for it but hesed includes \_\_\_\_\_, goodness, mercy, compassion, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. This Hebrew word is used \_\_\_\_\_ times just in the \_\_\_\_\_.

10. Psalm 32:10 tells us who qualifies for this unfailing love. Who is it?

11. Will you be willing to trust God and His Word these next months as we study His instructions for us?  
Will you commit to obey what He tells you to do?

12. Psalm 32:11 tells us in whom we are to rejoice. Who is it?

13. In whom or what are you rejoicing? If it is a person, thing, relationship, or anything *other* than the Lord, you could lose your source of joy at any time.

**Read Psalm 1**

14. List three conditions for being blessed in verse 1:

15. Describe this blessed man in verses 2, 3, 6:

16. What do you delight in? What do you think most about?

17. Read the quote in the margin and underline why you choose to sin.

 **Class Notes**

Ways to respond to God's commands by Joe Stowell

1. D \_\_\_\_\_

2. D \_\_\_\_\_

3. D \_\_\_\_\_

4. D \_\_\_\_\_

5. D \_\_\_\_\_

"How blessed is the man who \_\_\_\_\_ the LORD, who greatly \_\_\_\_\_ in His \_\_\_\_\_" - Psalm 112:1

**Read Proverbs 3:1-8**

18. What are the commands in verse 1?

19. What does it mean to keep God's commands in your heart?

20. In verse 2, what benefit(s) does God promise?



One reason  
you choose to sin  
is because you love  
what you want  
more than  
you love God  
or more than you  
desire His glory.  
There are  
'other gods'  
in your life.



Obedience begins  
with a  
relentless quest  
to know  
and take to heart  
God's Word.

—

DAVID JEREMIAH



The fear of the Lord  
is a mixture of  
reverence, fear,  
pleasure, joy,  
and awe  
which fills our  
hearts when we  
realize who God is  
and what He has  
done for us.

—  
SINCLAIR  
FERGUSON

21. The qualities important to God in verse 3 are:

22. How do we know these are important to Him?

23. The New Living Translation (NLT) Bible says to wear these qualities like a necklace. What do you think is the significance of this word picture?

24. What does “write them deep within your heart” mean?

25. Verse four has a great promise! When we obey verse one and three, what is the result?

26. List the 6 commands given in verses 5-7. Spend time thinking about each one. Circle two in which you need extra help from the Lord this week.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.
- f.

### **Grow Deeper**

*Take each of the above commands and pray them back to the Lord saying, “Lord, I desire to \_\_\_\_\_. Please help me grow in this area.” Ask Him for wisdom to see your own weak areas and spiritual needs.*

27. **Read Proverbs 3:5-8.** Find the promises God gives when we follow His commands.

## *Grow Deeper*

Read Psalm 15. Then list what you learn about who may dwell in God's sanctuary:

*God has certain standards about who may worship Him.*

### **Read Jeremiah 10:23**

28. Rewrite the verse in your own words.

29. An imprisoned Christian pastor said, "We have learned that suffering is not the worst thing in the world. Disobedience to God is the worst."

Why is this statement true?

In one of my favorite devotional books by Henry Blackaby, he writes, "The servant's function is to follow instructions. My fulfillment comes from serving my Master. I should have no other agenda than to be obedient to whatever He tells me."

Isaiah 45:9 says, "Destruction is certain for those who argue with Creator. Does a clay pot ever argue with its maker? Does the clay dispute with the one who shapes it saying, 'Stop you are doing it wrong!' Does the pot exclaim, 'How clumsy you can be!'"

In his devotional, Blackaby goes on to write, "Satan will try to convince you that obedience carries much too high a price, but he will never tell you the cost of not obeying God."



Those who  
love and trust Jesus  
will find ultimate,  
eternal joy  
in that glad-hearted  
surrender.

—

NANCY DEMOSS  
WOLGEMUTH

30. What should your goal in life be? What should be your prayer as you wake up each day? Read 2 Corinthians 5:9 and find out. How does this goal match your current goals in life?

### **Grow Deeper**

*Read Psalm 3. List five truths about God and how each impacts your life.*



I am to please God  
in every area  
of my life  
by obeying His will  
as revealed  
in the Bible.

—

LOU PRIOLO

#### **Read Proverbs 2:1-12**

31. Where does wisdom come from according to verse 6?

32. What also comes from this same source (verse 6)?

33. Describe how the lack of these three elements would adversely affect all your relationships.

34. Read verses 1-4 again and list the 7-8 actions (verbs) we are to do:

35. God delights in rewarding obedience. List the benefits of obeying these actions:

- a. Verse 5 (2)
- b. Verse 6 (3)
- c. Verse 7 (2)
- d. Verse 8
- e. Verse 9
- f. Verse 10
- g. Verse 11 (2)
- h. Verse 12



### **Grow Deeper**

*Read James 1:5-6. What is the promise? What is our responsibility?*

36. A definition that I really like for wisdom is “seeing life and responding to life from God’s point of view.” Conversely, foolishness is anything that is not consistent with living from God’s point of view.

Read the following verse and underline the words that describe the wisdom that comes from God:

The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. - James 3:17 NASB

37. Read the following verses and write down what they teach about wisdom and obedience.

- a. Proverbs 1:5, 7
  
- b. Proverbs 3:13-18



No man  
is really wise  
unless he lives  
in the will  
and for the glory  
of God.

—  
GEOFFREY  
GROGAN

c. Proverbs 4:4-7

d. Proverbs 15:9, 10, 14, 21, 31, 32, 33

e. Proverbs 16:16, 20

f. Proverbs 19:8, 16, 20



The wisest person  
in the world  
is the person  
who knows  
the most  
about God.

—

A.W. TOZER

### **Grow Deeper**

*From James 3:13-18 make two lists: Earthly Wisdom and Heavenly Wisdom.*

#### **Read Romans 12:1-2**

38. In the Old Testament God's people were to offer animals as sacrifices to God. In verse one, what are we urged to offer to God?
39. What attribute of God is listed in verse 1 and how should this motivate you to offer sacrifices to Him?
40. How can offering this particular sacrifice enhance all relationships, but especially a marriage?

## **Grow Deeper**

Read Galatians 2:20, 2 Corinthians 5:15, 1 Corinthians 6:20. What reoccurring theme is in all these verses?

41. We are also told in Romans 12:1 to be holy. What does it mean to be holy?
42. How is our memory verse, Colossians 3:17, connected with being holy?
43. Read 2 Peter 3:11 and underline the two words that describe how you are to live: “What kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives.”
44. Romans 12:2 gives us a command. What is it?
45. What are some patterns or customs of the world that affect our relationships and marriages today?

Are you copying any that God says not to?

46. This same verse (2) says we need our minds renewed and our thinking changed. How do you think this is done?

## **Class Notes**

God's Word + \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ = maturity, growth.

*Your progress in holiness will never exceed your relationship with the Word of God.*

- Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth

47. List the words that describe God's will in verse 2.



One infallible  
test of holiness  
is humility  
before  
God and man.

—  
ANDREW MURRAY



In pursuing holiness,  
you will fulfill  
and experience  
all that God  
had in mind when  
He created you.

—  
NANCY DEMOSS  
WOLGEMUTH



Believe the  
Word of God  
and act on it  
no matter how  
you feel.

—  
RON ALCHIN

## **Grow Deeper**

*God gives many clear specifics about His perfect will for you. List what you find in Philippians 1:6, 9-11, 20-21, 27. Write out the first phrase of verse 27.*

### **Read Ephesians 4:22-24**

48. What are we to get rid of and put off in verse 22?

49. Where is newness to occur according to verse 23? How do we do that?

50. What qualities of God are we to display according to verse 24?

51. What do you think these verses teach about a person being able to change, develop new attitudes, and discard old patterns of behavior?

52. Are you responsible for your own spiritual growth? Find and underline the four commands in Jude 20-21:

“But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.”

## **Class Notes**

We are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for our spiritual growth. (Jude 1:20-21)

53. After taking the wife/woman survey, are there any changes in attitude or behavior you need to make? (This is basically a rhetorical question.)

## **Grow Deeper**

*Write down what you learn from 2 Peter 1:3-9.*

## **Harvest**

Choose three main impacts from this lesson:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List three truths about God included in this lesson:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

How do these truths about God connect with your life this week?



### ***Rooted in Prayer***

*Pray that you will:*

- *Trust God in every area of your life.*
- *Be willing to obey all that God asks of you.*
- *Discern wisdom from foolishness.*
- *Realize where you need to change.*

### ***Love is....***

Write out our definition of love.



So then,  
just as you received  
Christ Jesus  
as Lord,  
continue to live your  
lives in him,  
rooted and built up  
in him,  
strengthened  
in the faith  
as you were taught,  
and overflowing  
with thankfulness.

—  
COLOSSIANS 2:6-7



 ***Specially for Singles***

Pray for the males in your life, father, son, brothers, friends, relatives, etc.  
List specific things you will pray.

Fill out #1-8 of the Woman of God survey that starts on page 19.

***Flourish in Fellowship***

1. Give a specific example from your own life of how your behavior reveals what you believe.
2. How should understanding God's hesed love for you powerfully affect your life?
3. Share one strength and one weakness from the Wife/Woman Survey #1-8.
4. What comes to your mind and how do you feel when you think about being holy? Do you truly desire to be holy...really?
5. Share the two items you circled for #26 on page 6.
6. Do you have a favorite quote from this lesson?



We're being  
influenced by the  
forces of sinful  
society  
or we're being  
influenced by the  
Word of God."

—

JERRY BRIDGES



We are  
wrong to think  
we can make  
anyone love us  
the way we need  
to be loved.  
Only God can.