

Abide Series
Week 3 outline
John 15:9-11
7.30.23

Abiding Through the Joy of Obedience

I. The Love of the Father

"As the Father loves... So I love..." vs 9

A. What does God the Father's love look like towards God the Son? (Mt 3:17, Col 2:9)

- It's a love that existed before the beginning
- It is permanent, without exception, for all eternity
- It is transcendent of space and time
- It is fully present, fully complete, and completely unconditional

B. In the same way... Christ loves us (Rom 5:8)

C. So now... ABIDE in my love

- remain, stay, live, make it your home

II. An Invitation to Abide

"If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love" -vs 10

-The world's definition of love sounds more like...

"if you obey my commands... then I will love you"

JESUS' WORDS ARE NOT A CONDITIONAL STATEMENT ABOUT HIS LOVE FOR US
THEY ARE HIS INVITATION TO ABIDE

A. Expectations and Obedience

1. A Core Lie We've Grown to Believe: Obedience => Love

"My ability to be loved depends on how well I meet God's expectations."

2. We learn more about compliance and conformity than we do
about obedience in the world we live in.

-EXTERNALLY

- behavior
- performance
- appearance
- image
- results
- language

-INTERNALLY...

-overwhelmed
-anxious
-angry
-fear
-frustration
-resentment

-bitterness
-depression
-hopelessness
-despair
-guilt
-shame

B. Obedience and Righteousness

1. Another core lie we grow to believe: Obedience => Righteousness
(our right standing with God)

2. Jesus came to fulfill the law (Mt 5:17)

The Law is external	...Grace is internal
The Law is effort	...Grace is a gift
The Law is achieving	...Grace is receiving
The Law is compliance	... Grace is surrender

IN CHRIST YOU ARE AS RIGHTEOUS TODAY
AS YOU WILL BE IN ALL ETERNITY IN HEAVEN

So if it isn't obedience => love; and it isn't obedience => righteousness; then what is it?

III. Obedience as a Response to Grace (vs 11)

1. Compliance says "I have to"
2. Obedience says "I get to"

Abiding Obedience...

-is a response of faith (not a way to earn salvation)
-it rests in grace (not an attempt to receive love)
-that leads to Joy (instead of isolation and fear)
-and is empowered by the Holy Spirit in us (not something we muster up on our own)
-Col 1:28-29

A Daily Examine:

CENTER:

Take a moment to become aware of God, myself, and my surroundings

GRATITUDE

What am I especially thankful for today?

REVIEW

What brought me joy? What challenged me?

TURN TO GOD

Where do I need to recenter in Christ or ask for forgiveness?

LOOK FORWARD

Where do I need God in the day to come?