

DISCIPLESHIP REQUIRES OBEYING, YIELDING AND SUBMITTING TO YOUR TEACHER (#3)

By Bob Young

Introduction

I like to explain Bible concepts with everyday illustrations. What is the meaning of a yield sign? The problem is that two distinct forces may conflict. Yield signs show up at intersections, who has to yield? You do not yield to traffic that is going the same way you are going. This is an illustration of what it means to be a disciple — totally yielded to God.

As we mature in discipleship, many days our lives pretty much run the same direction that God is going, we are learning, growing, maturing. We are moving the same direction. We have made a choice, we have listened, we want to obey. But, as human nature goes, there comes a time when what God wants and what I want diverge.

Through the years, I have appreciated more and more the advice I received as a young preacher—do something today that God wants you to do that you would prefer not to do! That is a mark of discipleship!

But I am getting ahead of the story. I have begun with conclusion rather than introduction.

Review

I express my love for Jesus when I choose him, when I give him total authority over my life.

I express my love for Jesus when I listen to him and learn from him.

I express my love for Jesus when I yield, when I do what he says; John 15:14; 14:15

A study of yielding (obeying, submitting) brings us face to face with three essential concepts of discipleship SIN, resulting in broken relationships

- Sin separates us from God.
- Refusing to do right is sin; doing what is wrong is sin.
- Sin results in spiritual death.
- Sin is person-specific, we do not inherit sin.
- The wages of sin are also specific, paid to the one who earns them.
- Sin is terrible in the sight of God because he is holy and he calls us to holiness.

REPENTANCE, seeking change

God's kindness and goodness are designed to lead us to repentance, Rom. 2:4.

Matt. 21:28-30, we must listen AND do.

Repentance is a change of heart toward God and away from sinful deeds, 2 Cor. 7.

Repentance involves change, not just remorse.

Repentance is the result of godly sorrow, repentance is distinct from worldly sorrow.

Godly sorrow produces repentance which leads to salvation.

RESTORATION, RECONCILIATION, RE-CREATION

- We need forgiveness of sins, which is only possible through the blood of Jesus.
- The blood of Jesus is proof of God's love for us.
- Justification is impossible without the blood of Jesus.
- The gospel must be preached and accepted, the gospel must be obeyed.

Romans 6 makes the connection between the gospel and yielding even clearer — 6:1-4, 11-14. In Romans 6, yielding and obeying have the same meaning.

You will notice that Romans 6 also connects discipleship and imitating — we will study this part of Romans 6 in the next lesson.

Conclusion

The example of the earliest disciples shows us the discipleship process (Acts 2:36-42, 47). Certain knowledge, making a decision, listening/learning, seeking a change, conviction, commitment, and continuing faithfulness.

Step #3 — yield, obey. The teacher understands the pitfalls, the problems. Listen, obey. Jesus has the answers.

The disciple follows the instructions of the Master. Am I willing to let him have control -- to lift my burdens, solve my problems, and correct my course? Matt. 11:28-29.