

Week 3 Devotional Guide: “Know and Obey to Be Happy with Jesus”

Scripture Focus: 1 John 2:3–11

Theme: Obedience flows from knowing God and leads us into His light and love.

Opening Prayer

Loving God,
As I/we come to this time of quiet and reflection,
help me/us to hear Your voice in the words of Scripture.
Open my/our heart(s) to understand what it means to truly know You—
not just with our minds, but with our lives.
May Your Spirit lead us into Your light,
and teach us how obedience brings joy, not burden.
In Jesus’ name,
Amen.

Read: 1 John 2:3–11

Read the passage slowly and prayerfully. You may wish to read it twice—once silently and once aloud.

Sermon Summary:

In this passage, John reminds us that truly knowing God is shown not just in what we say, but in how we live. Words are easy, but our actions tell the real story. To know God is to love Him, and to love Him is to obey Him. This kind of obedience is not about rules for rules’ sake—it’s a loving response to a relationship. Just as a child trusts and follows a loving parent, so we walk in the light of Jesus by following His commands. John also makes it clear that love for others is a sign we are truly living in the light. If we claim to know God but hold hatred in our hearts, we are still walking in darkness. Knowing God transforms how we treat others—and loving others is not optional for the Christian life. It’s a clear sign we are following Jesus.

Reflective Questions

Take time to reflect on these questions personally or discuss them with others in your group.

1. **What does it mean to “know God” in your everyday life?**
How is that different from just knowing *about* God?
2. **John says that obedience shows we truly know God.**
What does obedience to Jesus look like in your life right now?
Are there areas where you're struggling to follow Him?
3. **How would you explain to your friends that obedience, as the Bible describes it, is not an oppressive idea?**
Why does truly knowing God lead to obedience to His commands?
How can God be loving if He commands obedience from His people?
4. **Think of someone who has shown Christ's love to you through their actions.**
What did their love teach you about God?
5. **Are there relationships in your life where love needs to replace resentment or hurt?**
Ask God to help you take one step toward healing or forgiveness.

Closing Prayer

God of Light and Love,
Thank You for showing us the way through Your Son, Jesus.
Help us to know You more deeply—
not just in our minds, but in the way we live, love, and obey.
Teach us that Your commands are not heavy, but good,
and that walking in Your light leads to joy, freedom, and peace.

As we go into the rest of the week,
may our lives reflect Your truth,
our hearts be shaped by Your love,
and our steps follow the path of Jesus.

In the name of God the Father,
God the Son,
and God the Holy Spirit,
Amen.