

4. Honoring God's Word Means Obeying Completely, Not Selectively

Partial obedience is disobedience

1 Samuel 15:22-23 (NKJV) So Samuel said: "Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, **to obey is better than sacrifice... For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.**"

Joshua 1:7-8 (NKJV) Only **be strong and very courageous**, that you may observe to do according to all the law... This **Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth**, but you shall **meditate** in it **day and night**.

Moses Honored the Word by Building According to the Pattern

Exodus 25:40 (NKJV) And **see to it that you make them according to the pattern** which was shown you on the mountain.

Acts 9:6 (NKJV) So he, trembling and astonished, said, "**Lord, what do You want me to do?**"

Acts 26:19 (NKJV) Therefore, King Agrippa, **I was not disobedient** to the heavenly vision.

1 Samuel 15:9 (NKJV) But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good.

1 Samuel 15:14 (NKJV) But Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?"

1 Samuel 15:26 (NKJV) For **you have rejected the word of the Lord**, and the Lord has rejected you from being king over Israel.

Obedience is the greatest evidence of a honoring heart

ILLUSTRATIONS SUMMARY:

1. Abraham honored the Word by going.
2. Samuel honored the Word by listening.
3. Joshua and Caleb honored the Word by believing the promise above the giants.
4. Elijah honored the Word by obeying in a famine.
5. Moses honored the Word by following the pattern.
6. Paul honored the Word by obeying the heavenly vision.
7. But Saul dishonored the Word through partial obedience.
8. The ten spies dishonored the Word through unbelief.
9. Lot's wife dishonored the Word by looking back.
10. Eli's sons dishonored the Word by treating holy things casually.

What Happens When Faith Meets the Word - Part 3 – Honoring God's Word

Sunday, June 14, 2026

Matthew 15:8 (NKJV) 'These people **draw near to Me with their mouth**, And **honor Me with their lips**, But their **heart is far from Me**.

Matthew 15:9 (NKJV) And **in vain they worship Me**, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' "

1 Samuel 2:30 (NKJV) Therefore the Lord God of Israel says: 'I said indeed that your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever.' But now the Lord says: 'Far be it from Me; for **those who honor Me I will honor**, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.'

The Word of God works effectively in those who give it the proper place of honor

1. Honoring God's Word Begins with Receiving It as God Speaking

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV) For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it **not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God**, which also effectively works in you who believe.

Luke 8:15 (NKJV) But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a **noble and good heart**, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

Luke 8:15 (AMP) But as for that [seed] in the good soil, these are [the people] who, hearing the Word, **hold it fast in a just (noble, virtuous) and worthy heart**, and steadily bring forth fruit with patience.

James 1:21 (NKJV) Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

Psalms 119:11 (NKJV) Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You.

1 Samuel 3:10 (NKJV) Now the Lord came and stood and called as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And **Samuel answered, “Speak, for Your servant hears.”**

1 Samuel 3:19 (NKJV) So **Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him** and let **none of his words fall to the ground.**

1 Samuel 2:12 (NKJV) Now the sons of Eli were corrupt; **they did not know the Lord.**

1 Samuel 2:25 (NKJV) Nevertheless they did not heed the voice of their father, because the Lord desired to kill them.

You cannot neglect God’s Word and still expect God’s favor

Application

Before reading, hearing, or preaching the Word, prepare your heart. Pray, “Lord, I receive Your Word as Your voice. Correct me, strengthen me, instruct me, and change me.”

Ask yourself:

Do I treat the word of God as God speaking directly to me?

2. Honoring God’s Word Means Obeying Even When You Do Not See the Whole Picture

Hebrews 11:8 (NKJV) **By faith Abraham obeyed** when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, **not knowing where he was going.**

Genesis 12:1-4 (NKJV) Now the Lord had said to Abram: “**Get out of your country,** from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you.” **So Abram departed** as the Lord had **spoken to him.**

Genesis 22:2-3 (NKJV) Then He said, “**Take now your son,** your only son Isaac, whom you love... and **offer him** there as a burnt offering...” **So Abraham rose early** in the morning...

Romans 4:20-21 (NKJV) **He did not waver** at the promise of God **through unbelief,** but was **strengthened in faith, giving glory to God,** and being **fully convinced** that what He had **promised** He was also able to **perform.**

Genesis 19:17 (NKJV) So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, “Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain.”

Genesis 19:26 (NKJV) But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

You do not need full understanding to be fully obedient

3. Honoring God’s Word Means Standing on It When Circumstances Contradict It

Numbers 14:6-9 (NKJV) Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh... spoke to all the congregation... “The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land... **do not rebel against the Lord, nor fear** the people of the land.”

Joshua 14:10-12 (NKJV) And now, behold, the Lord has kept me alive, as He said... Now therefore, **give me this mountain of which the Lord spoke in that day.**

2 Corinthians 4:13 (NKJV) And since **we have the same spirit of faith,** according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” **we also believe and therefore speak.**

Mark 11:22-23 (NKJV) Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, **whoever says** to this mountain... and **does not doubt in his heart,** but **believes that those things he says** will be done, **he will have whatever** he says.

Numbers 13:30 (NKJV) Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “**Let us go up at once** and take possession, for **we are well able** to overcome it.”

1 Kings 17:2-5 (NKJV) Then **the word of the Lord came** to him, saying, “**Get away** from here and **turn eastward**... I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.” So he went and did according to the word of the Lord.

Numbers 13:31-33 (NKJV) But the men who had gone up with him said, “**We are not able** to go up against the people, for **they are stronger** than we.”

Numbers 14:36-37 (NKJV) Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land... who **brought the evil report**... those very men who brought the evil report about the land, **died by the plague** before the Lord.

What you focus on fills your heart, what you fill your heart with frames your report