

# Matters of the Heart

## An Obedient Heart

### TIME FOR OBEDIENCE TRAINING

- ▶ Our marching orders - Matthew 28:18-20
- ▶ "Teaching them to obey..."

OBSERVATION: Jesus Christ displayed perfect obedience to the Father. (Philippians 2:8; Hebrews 5:7-9)

- ▶ Definition of Obedience = Dutiful or submissive compliance to the commands of one in authority.

### WALKING IN OBEDIENCE (Deuteronomy 5:33; 28:9)

PRINCIPLE #1: God expects His children to obey Him.  
(Jeremiah 7:23; Matthew 16:24)

PRINCIPLE #2: Obedience opens the way to blessing.  
(Deuteronomy 11:26-28)

PRINCIPLE #3: To choose Christ is to choose the way of obedience. (Luke 6:46)

PRINCIPLE #4: The motive "behind obedience" really matters.

- ▶ Possible motives for obeying God:

- Duty / obligation
- Avoiding negative consequences
- Trying to look good
- Reciprocal LOVE (John 14:15, 21; 1 John 5:3; Matthew 11:28-30)

- ▶ OBEY GOD = LOVE GOD = TRUST GOD = FEAR GOD

PRINCIPLE #5: Before seeking God's specific will for your life, you need to first obey His general will revealed in Scripture.

### EXAMPLES TO LEARN FROM

- ▶ Disobedience: 1 Samuel 15:17-23 (King Saul)
- ▶ Obedience: Acts 9:10-22 (Ananias)