

Sermon: Obedience.
Series: Exodus.

Scripture: Exodus 39:32-43.
Date: November 5, 2023

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) God's commands always flow from his love for us. Do you believe this? Do you struggle to connect God's commands to his love?
- b) Why does God demand full obedience? Think about what would have happened if the Israelites only built part of the Tabernacle. OR...why couldn't the Israelites (and us) worship God any way they choose?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) In the last few chapters of Exodus we see the Israelites fully obeying God in building the Tabernacle. In what way was their obedience motivated by grace? What motivates your obedience? Grace? Fear? Pride?
- b) All obedience is costly just like love is costly. Where have you seen the costliness of obedience in your personal life? Has that cost been worth it?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) Do you remember what we said in the sermon about Christ's active and passive obedience? Active: Jesus fully obeyed the law. Passive: Jesus took the punishment for disobeying the law. Why are both of these necessary for our salvation?
- b) Christ's obedience has been credited or imputed to us. Moreover, the Christ in us is still obedient. He wants to obey through us. Read 1 Corinthians 6:17-20. How does Paul make our union with Christ the motivation for our obedience (sexual purity), rather than the law or even simply being "like Jesus"?

APPLICATION

- a) Above we asked what motivates your obedience. Hopefully, your answer was grace. How does union with Christ (Jesus in you) empower your obedience? What shift in thinking might need to happen for your union with Christ to become your new power source, rather than yourself?
- b) Is there something specific that God is asking you to obey, but you've been reluctant or resistant? How can this small group hold you accountable?

PRAYER

- Acknowledge God's right to command our obedience.
- Confess ways that you have failed to obey God.
- Thank Jesus for his complete and costly obedience.
- Ask God to help you to obey from your union with Christ.