

Lesson 4

Obedience



We have now studied:

1. REPENTANCE and 2. FAITH

In this lesson we will study a third aspect which must be found in the life of a child of God:

3. OBEDIENCE

1. Read the following Bible verse:

“Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord.”
(Romans 14:9)

This verse teaches us that Jesus died and rose again not only to be our Saviour but also to be our L_____.

2. Learn the words that you read in the previous question, along with the reference, using the spaces below for this:

“ _____ and _____ to _____ so that he might be _____.”
(_____ : _____)

3. At the time when this was written, the word “Lord” meant master; a person who had total authority over one. So this verse means that we should obey him:

- a. when we feel like it.
- b. at all times.
- c. now and again.

4. Jesus once said:

“If you love me, you will obey what I command.”

(John 14:15)

So if Christ is our Lord we will _____ his commandments.

5. Christ himself said: “No one can serve TWO masters”. We must serve and obey Christ and him alone. He must be given first place in our lives.

a) Who should be the believer’s only Lord and Master?

b) Who then should be your only Lord and Master?



Now we shall see that we must obey the Lord Jesus Christ in three areas of our life:

THOUGHT, WORD, and DEED

1

Christ, the Lord of our Thoughts

6. Obeying and pleasing the Lord Jesus is not like pleasing other people. People can only see the outside of our lives, so they must judge by that.

However, the Bible says about the Lord:

“Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight.

Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.” (Hebrews 4:13)

Look carefully at the cartoon below.



The man in the picture is fooling the woman by thinking one thing but saying something quite different.

Why is it impossible to fool the Lord in this way?

7. The “eyes” of the Lord look into the most secret part of our soul and see everything which is there.

So which of the following are true?

- a. God sees our inner thoughts.
 - b. God knows why I do everything.
 - c. God knows the desires of my heart.
 - d. God cannot see the things I do because he is kept busy with all the other things in the world.
 - e. Everything is open to the eyes of God.
8. One of the men God’s Spirit moved to write a book of the Bible was named Paul. In one place Paul wrote:

*“We take captive every THOUGHT to make it OBEDI-
ENT to Christ.”* (2 Corinthians 10:5)

We can see from these words that we must learn to obey and please Christ in all of our _____.

9. In another place Paul wrote:

“Be transformed by the renewing of your MIND.”

(Romans 12:2)

To be transformed means to be changed. And how are we to be changed? According to this verse, our way of THINKING must be changed.

That is what is meant when it says that our _____ must be renewed.

10. Paul also tells us how to change our way of THINKING and make our thoughts OBEDIENT to Christ in the following words:

“Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things.”

(Philippians 4:8)

If we really do begin to fill our minds with these things it will change our way of thinking. So which of the following thoughts will have to go? Mark with an “X” those thoughts that we must not harbour in our mind.

- a. Untrue and unkind thoughts about a friend.
- b. Thoughts about how I can trick someone.
- c. Dirty thoughts.
- d. Thoughts of the greatness and love of God.
- e. Thoughts about how I can help my neighbour in need.



There is an old saying: “You can’t keep birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from building a nest in your hair.” Satan will often tempt you by putting wrong thoughts into your mind, but with God’s help you can keep them from staying there. The “birds” can be kept from building a nest.

11. However, never make the mistake of believing that you can change your way of thinking entirely on your own.

Remember that Jesus is your Saviour and that he alone can save you from all your sins, including your sinful _____.

12. a) If Jesus is our Lord, what must we do? O _____ him. If you can't remember, look back to No.4.
- b) Up to now we have been studying just one of the areas of our life in which we must obey Jesus Christ as Lord, that is the area of our _____.



*But Christ should also
be the Lord of our words:*

2

Christ, the Lord of our Words

13. When a believer's mind and thoughts are changed, his way of talking will be changed as well.

Jesus said:

"Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks."

(Matthew 12:34)

Therefore, if we obey the Lord Jesus in our thought-life, the things which come out of our mouth will also change. That is, our w_____ will also change.

14. To obey Jesus in what we say we must make sure that we only use good, clean words. Bad language should not come out of a Christian's mouth. Sometimes a new Christian finds it very hard to break the habit of swearing or lying. But the Bible says:

"Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should NOT be."

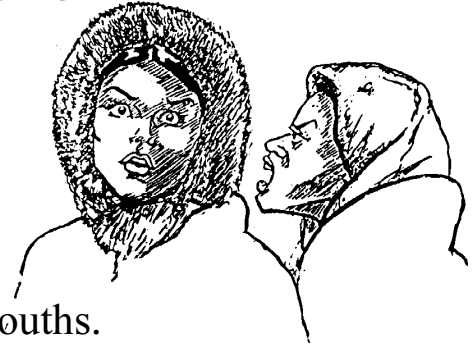
(James 3:10)

continues...

You are a follower of Jesus Christ so what kind of words ought to come out of your mouth?

- a. Only clean words.
- b. Bad language.
- c. A mixture of clean and foul language.

15. The picture on the right shows an area of our lives in which we should obey Christ as Lord.



What is it?

The _____ that come out of our mouths.

16. Below are six examples of the use of words. Some of them are good uses, some are wrong. Look at these examples carefully.



a) Match the kinds of words in the list below with these pictures. Put the letter of the picture in the space provided.

- 1) Words used to encourage others. Picture _____
- 2) Words used to praise God. Picture _____
- 3) Words used to gossip and to backbite Picture _____

continues...

4) Words used to talk about Jesus. Picture _____

5) Words used to lie. Picture _____

6) Words used to curse. Picture _____

b) Which are the three pictures in which people are using their words in the right way, and so obeying Jesus as their Lord?

Write their letters. _____

17. a) If Jesus is our Lord, what should we be doing?

O _____

b) What are the two areas of our life, that we have looked at so far, in which we should be obeying the Lord Jesus Christ?

3

Christ, the Lord of our Deeds

18. Go over the words that you learned by heart and the reference, using Nos.1 & 2 of this lesson as a guide.

19. Yes, Christ died and returned to life in order to be the Lord. Calling Jesus “Lord” is more than a matter of words. Jesus was referring to people who thought this way when he said:

“Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord’, and do not do what I say?”
(Luke 6:46)

It is no use at all calling Jesus “Lord”, if we do not actually _____ what he says.

20. We must put our words into practice by **DOING** what the Lord says. He expects us to be obedient to him in: (Tick one)

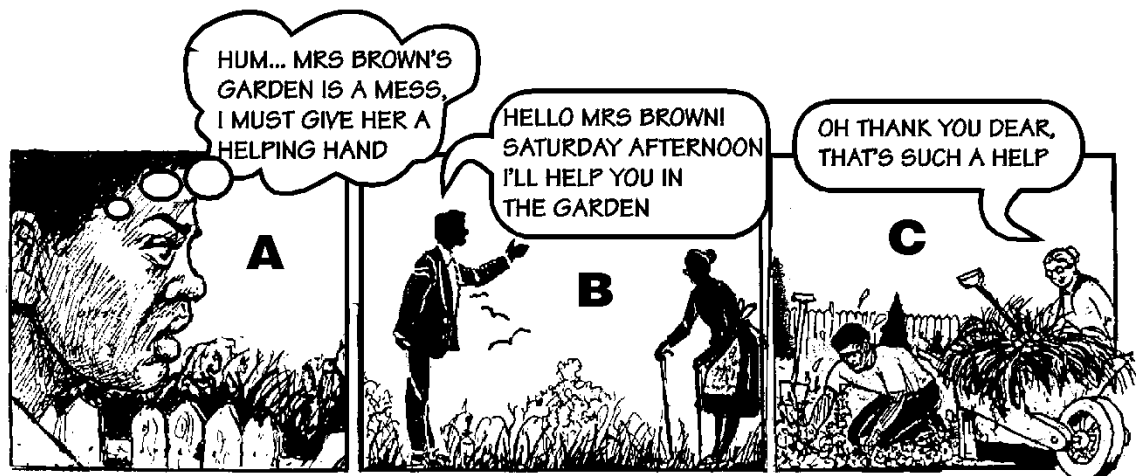
a. words only. b. thoughts only.

c. the things we DO, as well as thoughts and words.

21. When we studied the idea of true repentance we saw that a real change of mind and attitude results in a changed life. We begin to DO what the Lord tells us.

We are to obey the Lord in our thoughts and our words as well as by _____ what is right.

22. Laurie feels that Jesus wants him to help his elderly neighbour, a widow, who urgently needs someone to do her garden for her.



- a) In which of the pictures does Laurie think of helping? _____
- b) In which picture does he talk about doing it? _____
- c) In which picture does he actually DO the good deed? _____
23. Of course, from time to time, you may slip up in thought, word and deed. If this happens make sure you confess it to the Lord and turn away from it immediately.
- Then you can be sure that this sin will be f_____.
24. There are three areas of our life in which we should obey Christ as Lord. What are they?
- _____

Ask the Lord to help you obey him in your thoughts, words and deeds. Give yourself to him afresh now so that he will truly be your Lord and Master.

TEST 4

1. If Christ is truly your Lord, what must you do?

2. Which are the three areas of your life in which you should do this?

3. Write out the words you learnt by heart in this lesson, with their reference:

Reference: _____

