

Character Trait December 6-13 is Obedience

Ephesians 5:1, "Therefore, be imitators of God"

CHARACTER: the qualities built into an individual's life that determine their responses, regardless of circumstances.

Obedience: Quickly and cheerfully carrying out the directions of those who are responsible for me.

Weekly Verse: Psalm 119:34 "Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart."

Bible Story: Phil 2:1-11. In the joy of celebrating the Advent season, we should also stop and remember that Jesus' birth ultimately led to His death. It was not His birth that freed us from our sin, but His death and resurrection. It was the ultimate act of obedience for Jesus to come to earth so that He could die on the cross.

Quote: "Great moves of God are usually preceded by simple acts of obedience."

Application: Can you give at least one example of obedience (or disobedience) to God in each of these Bible stories?

- 1) Noah
- 2) Moses
- 3) Abraham
- 4) Esther
- 5) Ruth
- 6) David
- 7) Paul
- 8) Peter
- 9) Mary
- 10) Joseph

Discussion Questions:

1. Obedience usually requires the one being obedient to set aside their own interests for a period of time. What did Jesus have to set aside in order to be obedient and come to earth as a human?
2. As the person asking others to obey (such as a parent), how are some ways we can use obedience selfishly? How can we safeguard against making others obey us for the wrong reasons?