

Children's  
Word

EXACT

Mahomet,  
Illinois

Obedience

Mr. P. Schneider

June 2007

Good morning, children. Can we pray? Are you ready? Can you close your eyes, Esther? I think you are going to be a perfect example of what the Lord has given me to talk about today. When we are done you are going to say, "Oh my, he was talking about me!" Amen. So, can we pray?

Oh, God I thank You for every precious life that is here. I thank You for the anointing that You have made available to each one of these little ones that they might understand, Father, in a greater measure the thing that You desire to do in them; that they were born at this time because of what was in the heart of God; that You want to touch them. You want to anoint them. You want to fill them to overflowing with the character and nature of Jesus Christ. You want to make them,



every one, to be like Jesus. You want to give them the ability to walk in the midst of this generation and demonstrate the truth of the glorious Gospel. Oh God, that they should know what is the hope of their calling. Anoint them, oh God, that they be not content to wallow in the things of the earth. Give them an appetite for the things of God, for righteousness, for holiness and for truth. God, we commit them into Your hand. We believe You for their destiny. We know that they are not children of the flesh, but they are children of the promise, even according to Thy Word. Open their hearts to receive the ministrations. Give me utterance, God, that I can give them that which You have given me to the glory of God. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen and amen.

**PRAISE  
THE  
LORD!**

I think what we ought to do is a little “Praise the Lord.” Stand up. We are not going to shout and blow the roof off because we know that you can all shout and blow the roof off. But we can just say “Praise the Lord, I love You, Jesus.” Amen? All right, are you ready? One, two, three:

**“Praise the Lord, I love You, Jesus!  
I will obey You, Jesus.”**

What was that last thing you said? Let’s do it again. Now, think about the last thing that you are going to say. All right, are you ready?

**“Praise the Lord, I love You, Jesus!  
I will obey You, Jesus.”**

I will what? I will obey You. All right, sit down and let’s get into the Word. Amen.

Do you know that God could have made you an adult? Isn’t that funny? Did Adam have a mother? No. He was born what? An adult. Yes, he was born an adult. Were you born an adult? No. There is a plan and purpose that God has because He knows what you have need of. So, Adam was the only man that was born an adult. Even Jesus was born a baby. What does the Bible say about Jesus? It says that He learned obedience by the things He suffered (Hebrews 5:8). Nobody said this was easy.

Tell me: has anybody said, “Mom, I don’t want to do that. Can’t you make Isaac do it? Can’t you make Christopher do it?” What is that? Complaining, whining, murmuring. What, Chloe? Have you ever done that? Yes, you have, but we are working on it, right? Listen to me: God put you in your house because He wanted to

teach you something. Now, I am going to tell you what I learned as a young man.

When I was your age, I couldn’t wait to get my current age. I am going to give you some advice: don’t be too much in a hurry. Do you know that you are a child for about one-quarter of your life? I can tell you that my childhood was the most joyous time that I ever had. Do you know that if I had to write a list for my parents of the things that they did improperly in

my life or something that I could complain about, my paper would be empty? Do you know that my parents loved me a lot? You guys, you are in a house with a lot of kids. There were eleven in my house and five of us about your ages lived in one room.

We slept in one room. Five of us! That would be fun, you may think. Well, sometimes it was fun. I am just telling you that perspective is everything. Do you know what perspective is?

**Johanna:** The way you look at things.

**Mr. Schneider:** Yes, perspective is the way you look at things. What is your perspective if you are playing baseball and you are in the field and the guy strikes out? And what is his perspective?

See, your perspective governs what you are going to do. God wants to give you His perspec-

**OBEY**



tive because the things that you see are not always accurate according to what God wants to do with you. That is why He puts it on you. Say that your mama catches you with your hand in the cookie jar and you are lying through your teeth, “Oh, I’m not taking a cookie!” yet she is watching you. She puts it on you. Why? She wants to change your perspective. She wants you to learn obedience.

Let me tell you what the word “obey” means. Now, these are big words but I am going to try to make them so that you can understand them. It says, to “comply with commands, orders or instructions of a superior.” Do you know what a superior is?

**Isaac:** A parent.

**Mr. Schneider:** Well, a parent is a superior.

**Josiah:** Someone that is in higher rank over you.

**Mr. Schneider:** Very good, someone that is in higher rank over you. If your mother leaves the house and says, “Christopher, I am leaving you under Johanna’s oversight. If you want to go any place you have to ask her, not tell her, ‘I am going down to the store.’ You have to ask her,” that means your mother, by virtue of her position, has made your sister your superior.

God wants to teach us obedience.

Why? So that we can be submissive to Him and obedient to Him. He gives you parents or



people around you to teach you. Do you know why? Vivian, do you know why? See, some of us have a little bit more difficulty with this little thing that is called “obey.” Why is that? Because sometimes we want to resist. Oh yes, sometimes we have our own ideas about what we ought to be doing. “I don’t want to do laundry,” you say. You were not thinking, “I don’t want to do laundry,” when you pulled your drawer open and it was filled with clean clothes. What if they were all rolled up in balls and filthy? Would you want to put them on? No way! But we don’t see the difference between filthy clothes and doing laundry.

Does anybody here know what boredom is? Oh yes, boredom. You know, my brothers and I learned never to be bored. Do you know why? Because if you were, then you would have to do a job. My mother didn’t like bored boys and so if we were bored, she would say, “Oh, you’re bored. I have some walls that need cleaning.”



Once we said we were bored that was it.

“Oh, I’m not bored Mom.”

“Oh, you’re not going to be bored. Go get the bucket and put some soap in it. Come on, you start here and go all the way around the room.”

“I’m not tall enough.”

“We’ve got ladders.” You just learned not to say that.

I began to learn that part of my job, part of my responsibility, was to obey my parents. I needed to learn obedi-

ence, because I wasn't smart enough to do it on my own. It says, to obey is to *comply with commands*; that means to do what you are told, when you are told. It also says to *comply with the requirements of the law: moral, political or municipal* - to do that which is commanded or required, and **not** to do the things that are prohibited. Obedience is sometimes **not** doing something. Your brother or your sister takes something from you and you run up and slap him or her right across the head and grab the thing back. Is that obedience? No, sir, that is grabby. Now, I am going to tell you why.

Let us consider the Word of God. To obey is one of the most critical things that you can learn. It is **necessary**. Do you know that it is not optional? Why do you know it is not optional? Do you know what optional means? What does it mean?

**Josiah:** It means that you don't have a choice.

**Mr. Schneider:** That is right. Optional means that you have choices. "Well, I'll do this or do that." The only time you have options in your home is if your parents give you options. "Well, Josiah you can either mow the grass or go to bed."

**Josiah:** I'd mow the grass.

**Mr. Schneider:** See, your parents know how that works. That would be the same with me. My mother would say, "You can either go to bed or you can wash the walls or wash the floor or wash the toilets." I did not want to go to bed before it was time. I mean, I wanted my day to be filled with activities. Do you know what I am saying? So, to do whatever was no problem.

We have to learn to obey. God gives

us parents that we see with our eyes. Can anybody in here see their mom or dad? Where are they? Right there. Where is your mom, Josiah? Christopher, can you see her back there? All right, Sophia, Lily, Vivian, you can all see your mom back there, right? Now, here is the problem that we have. When we see, it is easier for us to obey. What if Allie is standing up here and she is disobeying her mom? Her mom is saying, "Allie, you sit down," in a soft voice. What if I say, "Allie, honey, little sugar, you sit down please." What will she do? She will say, "Who is this guy?" But if I say, "ALLIE, SIT DOWN!", she sits down. That is one of the reasons why God gives you somebody bigger than you are with more authority than you, because He needs you to learn to obey. And do you know something? Liking it is not the first requirement. Do you understand me? Does anybody here like to do dishes? Josiah does. Okay, I'll remember that. You know, I do not like to do dishes, but I did so many dishes that I pretended to like it. Does anybody like to scrub toilets? Jonathan does. Okay, I'll remember that, too. We will be able to use you here at convention time to clean the building. Amen. How about lima



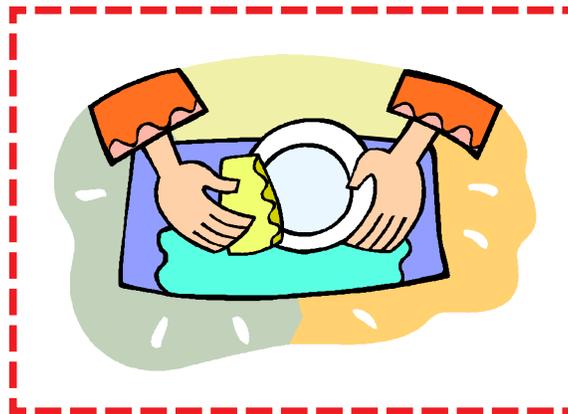
beans? Does anybody like lima beans? Okay, so I'm not talking to you, Johanna, but to all you other guys that don't like them. When they are put on your plate, it is not optional to eat them. You have to learn to do these things. Liking something is not the first prerequisite of being obedient.

You know, my dad was a tanner. When he said, "Bend over," you knew you were going to get it. Bend over? Think about that. You may think, "Are you crazy? If I bend over, all of my muscles are going to be tighter. Probably my pants are going to be tighter and that belt is going to sting more. I'm not bending over!" But you didn't want to hesitate with my dad. It was not optional. Dad said bend over and it was bend over. That was obedience.

I am telling you: if you cannot obey those that you see with your eyes, don't fool yourself to think you are going to obey God whom you cannot see. God has you in His spiritual school to teach you the rudiments of spiritual life with things that you see. And if you cannot or will not obey your parents, you will not obey God. Oh, yes, we can get religious. "Praise the Lord. I will obey God." But you won't. It is a spiritual principal. Do you know that obedience or lack of obedience has consequences? Do you know what consequences are? Consequences are the results of your actions. If you are disobedient, you get a punishment, right? But there also are rewards for being obedient. If you are

obedient all day long and somebody says, "Well, you know, I think you have done an excellent job today. Why don't we go to First Fruits and get that cappuccino chip ice cream?"

There is a scripture in Exodus 19. Listen to what God said to Moses, ***5Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people; for all the earth is mine.*** God is telling him that if you obey... God wants you to obey. He wants you to hear and obey. Do you know that most of us have to fight with our own personality, with our own de-



sires, with our own ideas? How old are you? Nine. Do you know how old I am? Fifty-six. That means I am 47 years longer on the earth than you, right? Now, wouldn't you think that I might have a little more

knowledge than you? Not a little bit, a lot more. What I am saying to you is that it is the same way with your parents. They have more experience, more wisdom, more stamina, more knowledge, more understanding, more, more, more and yet sometimes you think you know better than they do. Why? Because of the nature that is in you. God is working out Isaac and in Jesus. Out Christopher and in Jesus. Out Allie and in Jesus. Out Vivian and in Jesus. Some of those tasks are more formidable than others.

God said, ***...ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people; for all the earth is mine.*** ***6And ye***

**shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.**

Exodus 23:20 (I am just giving you some scriptures), **Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.** Do you know that God has a place for you? Do you know that? You are not always going to remain here as children. He is training you. He is teaching you. He wants you to hear. He wants you to see. He wants you to be obedient.

Verse 21, **Beware of him (this angel), and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions (sin): for my name is in him.** That is serious business. Do you know that

obedience is exact? If I tell Chloe that I want her to mow my grass and she goes into Champaign and mows somebody else's grass, is that obedience? No. Absolutely not. Why? Because obedience is exact. I have seen some of you fellows when your mother says, "Do this," and you go and do something else or you pretend like you are deaf. "Eh, what, what's that she said? I can't hear you." If I call somebody, "Hey, you, come over here," and they go, "I'm pretty far away from him. Maybe he will think I didn't hear him," when I know that isn't it at all. You are just afraid old Grandpa is going to put you to work. You see, God wants us to learn these things. Hallelujah! If we

learn them quickly as a child, our adulthood is not going to be nearly as difficult. Do you know when I go to prison on Monday night, the men I see had mostly problems with obedience? They did not obey the law and the law snatched them up. Do you know what they do now? They'd better obey or they will be in that hole longer and in a worse set of circumstances. Obedience isn't an option for them. A guy comes into the service and he is told, "C23916, get up and come up here." He comes right up. He doesn't even have a name, he has a number! He

went downhill because he refused to be obedient. Exactness. Obedience must be exact.

I am going to give you a little story and then we are going to close. Exact means, *Closely correct or regular; nice; accurate;*

*conformed to rule; as a man exact in his dealings.* Do you know of any Bible stories where people were disobedient?

**Caleb:** Adam and Eve.

**Mr. Schneider:** Very good. Adam and Eve. God said they could eat of every tree except one. Now, think about that. What if there were ten thousand trees that they could eat from and one that they could not? Why did they go to that one? Because the devil tricked Eve? Well, not only that. There was also something in her to be disobedient. Knowledge of good and evil. Eve said that the tree was nice to look at, desired to make one wise and pleasant to the eyes. So, she moved in



disobedience and what happened? It was more than just having to go out of the garden. The Bible says that sin came on the whole earth and the penalty came on every man. It is in Romans 5:14-19. It says that death reigned from Adam to Moses even over those that had not sinned the way Adam had sinned.

Does anybody else know another story where people were disobedient?

**Caleb:** When Uzziah did not get out of the Tabernacle and the priests told him to.

**Mr. Schneider:** And what happened to him?

**Caleb:** He got leprosy.

**Mr. Schneider:** Getting leprosy was his consequence. It was the consequence of his disobedience. Chloe, do you know one?

**Chloe:** David and Goliath.

**Mr. Schneider:** Oh yes, David and Goliath! Goliath was definitely disobedient and he paid the price. All right, now I want you to understand the following story because of what the Bible says our destiny is. Who knows what is our destiny?

**Children:** To be sons of God.

**Mr. Schneider:** To be sons of God. In I Peter 2:9 it says that we are to be a royal priesthood. God wants us to rule as kings and priests. Do you know of any king that had a problem with obedience? Let me give you a heads up. How about Saul? Saul had a problem. God told him through the mouth of the prophet to utterly destroy Amalek (I

Samuel 15). Why? Because they were a wicked nation and they were destroying Israel. And they were rebelling. Now, let me tell you what Amalek is, because everything that we see in the natural is a type of the spiritual. Amalek is a type of the flesh. As soon as Israel came out of Egypt, Amalek was there to oppress them. Think about this. As soon as you come out of church, your flesh rises up to oppress you. Do you understand? To steal what you have. There is something that the Bible says about a situation when a man gets born again. It

says that if any man is in Christ, old things are passed away and all things become new (II Corinthians 5:17). What happens is that God brings His nature through the Blood, which we sang

about today, and your soul becomes alive to God. That was in Pilgrim's Progress, wasn't it? Immediately when that happens, you become an enemy to the devil. Before that he wanted you to be his friend. But now, he is your enemy. Do you want me to tell you how he does it? He comes up and whispers in your ear, "Christopher, why is Caleb always hogging those swords?" Or, "Why is Caleb always pushing around the fact that he's got these rifles and he doesn't let anyone play with them unless they bow down to him?" Then he starts stirring you up so you are playing it against Caleb. The minute he turns around, you get him and take the rifle. Do you know



**Our destiny  
is to be  
sons of God**

what I am saying? The devil wants to use you, but God wants to change you and obedience is the key to that.

Now, what happened to Saul? When God told him to kill them all, what did Saul do? Did he do what he was told? No! Do you know what? It didn't really matter what the reason was. Saul tried to blame it on the people. He tried to blame it on somebody else. "Oh, no, it's not me!" "No, no. Allie slapped me. That's why I did that." "Vivian did not obey me. That's why I did that." "Esther pinched me. That's why I did that." We always try to blame it on somebody else, but God is wanting to change us. When He changes our hearts and when He changes our soul, do you know what else happens? He changes our mind; He changes our direction; and He changes our destiny.

**Children:** He changes our attitude.

**Mr. Schneider:** Oh, my goodness! Attitude is supreme. You have to have a good attitude. So, Samuel comes to Saul and says, "Utterly destroy Amalek." You remember the story, right? When Samuel comes back to Saul, Saul says, "Oh, I did everything I was supposed to do." Have you ever done that?

"Oh yeah, Mom, I did everything you told me to do."

"Oh, really? Well, the kitchen table

isn't clean and the dishes aren't in the dishwasher and the floor isn't swept. You didn't do everything. You hardly

did anything at all!" That means when somebody tells you something, they expect you to do all of it. Every bit of it.

Do you know what I learned? In our house there were certain things that we had to do every day. Every day we had to vacuum the front and back stairs. We had to clean the bathrooms and the toilets. We had to clean the floors, the sinks and the tubs. Every day somebody had to do that. In addition to these, I had to deliver papers and make sure they were out by 5 o'clock. This was all in addition to going to school and doing my homework. It isn't all as tough as you thought it was, is it? So what I decided to do was that I would say, "Okay, when I come home from school, my mother will expect me to do A and B. So, in order that I can make sure that I get it done, I will do A, B, C, and D." My mom loved me. I mean, she thought I was her best worker, and I was. Now, that's not really bragging, because my other brothers didn't figure it out soon enough. But if I would do A, B, C, and D, do you know what? I never had to do dishes. Thank you, Jesus! Because my mom would say, "This poor boy, he slaved and did all this stuff." Usually, I did the hallways and the front and back stairs and both bathrooms. I would clean the floors, the toilets, the sinks and the tubs. Not the walls, they were just summertime jobs. But I would do that just so I wouldn't have to do the dishes. And most of the time I didn't, until my mom sniffed me out and found out I was



manipulating her. So she put an end to that. But what I learned is that if you do more than what you think you ought to do, a lot of times it will be just fine.

**Josiah:** I have a story in my school reading book that talks about that.

**Mr. Schneider:** Amen.

**Josiah:** The boss asked the boy to do the job until it was done. Then the next day he asked him, "Well, why are you working today?" And the boy said, "You didn't ask me to do a day's work, you asked me to get it done."

**Mr. Schneider:** That's exactly right. If it takes two days, that is what you do. Now, you know that is scriptural. Jesus says that if a man asks for your shirt, give him your coat too. If he asks you to walk a mile with him, walk two (Matthew 5:41).

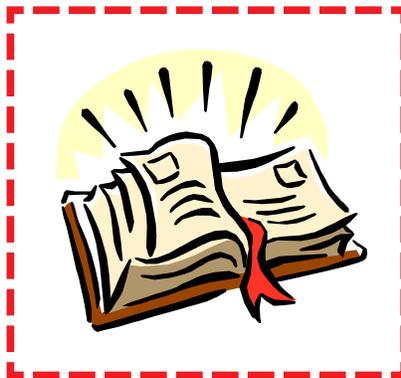
I want you to know that obedience is desirable. God wants you to be obedient. He said in Jeremiah 7:23, ***But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.***

Do you know Ephesians 6:1-3? It says, ***Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. <sup>2</sup>Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise); <sup>3</sup>That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.***

Listen, if you operate in this obedience, your life is going to turn around. If it has been a drudgery and total misery, then you just start being obedi-

ent. You know, when you get your little sniff on, "Nobody loves me. Everybody hates me." "I just don't want to work," you will not get anywhere. Have you ever done that? When you start obeying and doing what is right, you will be blessed. It is not just obeying your parents, it is obeying the Word of God. It is obeying the Spirit of God, because God will talk to you very quickly. When you start misbehaving, somebody will come and say, "Christopher!" As soon as you wake up and say, "Oh, Lord help me," God will help you, because He wants you to be successful.

When it was all said and done with Saul and he said he did everything, Samuel asked, "Why do I hear the sheep? That means you didn't do everything you were told." Samuel's answer is your memory verse. I Samuel 15:22, ***And Samuel said, Hath 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, and to hearken (is better) than the fat of rams.*** He was saying, "I don't want you to be religious and do all your religious exercises." Like, you do your memory verses and read your Bible and you pretend to be obedient, but when you are off by yourself and nobody is watching you, you have problems. He said that for you to do all that other stuff and not be obedient, not hear God, not hearken means nothing. For obedience is better than sacrifice, and to hearken better than the fat of rams. Do you know what hearken means? It means to hear

with the intent of doing. If I say, "Josiah, I'm giving you a list of jobs to do," and Josiah says, "Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah," but he is watching something or playing a game and I say, "I want you to do A, B, C, D," and you are not listening, then you are not going to do anything. Why? Because you didn't really hear what I asked you to do.

I am telling you that as you learn obedience it has a reward. Do you understand that? Acts 5:29, **Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.** <sup>30</sup>**The God of**

**our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.** <sup>31</sup>**Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.**

<sup>32</sup>**And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.** If you are disobedient and stiff-necked and unwilling to do, God isn't going to give you the Holy Ghost. He said He has given the Holy Ghost to them that obey Him. Ephesians 6:1, **Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.** Colossians 3:20, **Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well-pleasing unto the Lord.**

I want to encourage you. You have a great destiny in Christ Jesus, but it is not going to operate if you continue

to follow the carnal road. We have a heavenly road and we have a carnal road. What does the Bible say? Romans 6:23, **For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Do you know what wages are? It is your paycheck. If your life is sin, do you know what your payment is? Death and hell. But if your life is obedience and goodness... My goodness, young people, God has so much to give you, it is just unbelievable! You cannot do for yourself what He wants to do, but obedience is the critical factor. You are not going anywhere by being

disobedient and stubborn and stiff-necked and wanting to do your own thing. I am telling you: some of you guys have a hard time with obedience and that is why you get paddled more. Do you know when

the paddling stops? When you are obedient. Can you see the guy in this picture? Who does he look like?

**Children:** Noah.

**Mr. Schneider:** Why do I have Noah here when we are talking about obedience? Because he obeyed God. You have your own destiny in your own hands. Noah did exactly what God told him to do and he did it when God told him to do it. He was obedient to the commandment of God and God saved him from the flood. As you are obedient to God, He will do for you what you could not do for yourself. Let us be diligent to be obedient to God. Amen.

