

SESSION 5: OBEDIENCE & REPENTANCE

- **Welcome and Review Last Week's Homework:** 15 minutes

- Discuss how you assessed **"respect"** in your home this week.

- **Session #5 Teaching: Obedience & Repentance:** 15 minutes

Obedience is NOT something that happens on an island, or over night! It is the outcome of everything we've discussed so far and again, it starts with how YOUR model as a parent and how you set your expectations as a family. There is a Biblical standard that God wants us to maintain, both as followers and leaders and that moral standard cannot change, even though we may all arrive at that standard on slightly different paths.

As we discuss obedience today, we need to talk about our own moral standard and how we might need to adjust OUR obedience to God in order to expect our family to follow that lead. Also, our lack of obedience leads to a need and understanding of repentance. We ALL need to repent more often and expect the same from our children.

All of this starts with communicating and holding to your expectations in a consistent fashion.

Once we set our standards, we need to stick to them.

- **Stop threatening and repeating. No more "counting to 3!"**
- **Stop bribing.**
- **Stop negotiating with your children and giving too many choices.**
- **Expect FIRST-time obedience. It all starts with better communication!**
- **Read Colossians 3:21**

Start being MORE consistent in YOUR parenting! *Slow down, look them in the eye and hold your ground! Make sure they engage you with a verbal response. "Yes, Mommy," or "Yes, Daddy!" Make sure to praise your kids more than reprimanding them!*

- **Small Group Discussion:** 15 minutes

- **Are YOU modeling obedience? To God? To your spouse? Do you snap at your spouse or at the kids when asked for attention? Are YOU letting YOUR YES be YES and your NO be NO? Stop saying maybe...Discuss**
- **Discuss how you give your kids too many choices.**
- **Will you enforce having your kids respond when you engage them?**
- **How will YOU talk about obedience AND repentance with your family?**

- **Small Group Wrap-Up:** 10 minutes

What did you cover in your small group time? What were the biggest take-aways and action items?

- **Discuss This Week's Homework:** 5 minutes

- **Start giving your family a 5-minute warning.**
- **Remove the "gray area" communication.** Assess how often you communicate "maybe" instead of saying YES or NO!
- **Assess your consistency in both reprimands and reward.**
- **Do this week's FIRE Starter Journaling about your OWN commitment to repentance.**