

SESSION 5: OBEDIENCE & REPENTANCE

Welcome and Review Last Week's Challenging Question (10 minutes):

Welcome back, everyone. Let's take a moment to discuss authority figures and how you can demonstrate greater respect.

Session #5 Teaching: Obedience & Repentance (5 minutes):

Obedience doesn't occur in isolation or overnight. It's the culmination of our previous discussions and begins with the example we set as parents and the expectations we establish as a family. God calls us to uphold a moral standard, both as followers and leaders, which remains consistent despite the diverse paths we may take to reach it.

Today, as we explore obedience, we must examine our own moral compass and consider how aligning our obedience to God influences our family's behavior. Moreover, our failure to obey necessitates repentance, a concept we should embrace both personally and expect from our children. Effective communication and consistent adherence to expectations are paramount in this process.

We need to abandon ineffective parenting strategies such as threats, bribes, and negotiations, opting instead for clear communication and the expectation of first-time obedience. Let's read Colossians 3:21 as a reminder of our responsibility as parents.

To promote obedience, we must prioritize consistency in our parenting approach. Slow down, make eye contact, and stand firm in our expectations, ensuring our children respond verbally. Praise should outweigh reprimands in our interactions.

Small Group Discussion (30 minutes):

- *Are you modeling obedience? To God? To your spouse? How do you respond when asked for attention?*
- *Discuss instances where you offer your children too many choices.*
- *Will you enforce the practice of having your kids respond when engaged?*
- *How will you initiate discussions about obedience and repentance with your family?*

Wrap-Up Question (10 minutes):

What strategies can we implement to promote obedience and repentance within our families, and how can we ensure consistency in our parenting approach?

Challenging Question for Couples During the Week:

Reflect on your own obedience to God's commands and consider how you can better align your actions with His will, fostering an environment of obedience and repentance within your family.