

JESUS AND OBEDIENCE

JOHN 2:13-17

13When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. 15So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!" 17His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me."

WHEN YOU SEE INJUSTICE- HOW DO YOU RESPOND?

Many Religious People think they know Jesus-
But they know the Stereotype more than the Savior.

Being a Highly Sensitive Person doesn't make you Soft!
Jesus was as passionate as He was compassionate.

LUKE 14:1-6

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched. 2There in front of him was a man suffering from abnormal swelling of his body. 3Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in the law, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath or not?" 4But they remained silent. So taking hold of the man, he healed him and sent him on his way. 5Then he asked them, "If one of you has a child or an ox that falls into a well on the Sabbath day, will you not immediately pull it out?" 6And they had nothing to say.

Jesus insisted that the whole law pointed toward love, and love meant seeing and valuing the worth God had placed in human life.

MATTHEW 12:11-12

"If any of you has a sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will you not take hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable is a person than a sheep!"

MATTHEW 6:25-26

"Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

“Are not sparrows sold two for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

When you care about someone, you notice details.

LUKE 14:12-14

“When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

People are worth far more to God than anything else?

A Highly Sensitive Guest tried to distract Jesus with a little platitude:

“Blessed is anyone who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.”

Jesus would not be distracted.

He began a story about who is on the guest list for the feast in the kingdom.

LUKE 14

In Jesus’ story, the man who threw the feast was insulted by expected guests who rejected him at the last minute with lame excuses. As we would expect, the master was angry.

As we would not expect, he turned his anger into grace.

He told his servant to go to the streets and alleys of the town and bring in

“the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.”

Greek historian Thucydides wrote about how people in Athens responded during an earlier plague: “They died with no one to look after them.

“At the first onset of the disease, they pushed the sufferers away and fled from their dearest, throwing them into the roads before they were dead and treated unburied corpses as dirt, hoping thereby to avert the spread and contagion of the fatal disease.”

But there was in that world a community that remembered they followed a man who would touch lepers while they were unclean; who told his disciples to go heal the sick, who got in arguments at dinners that embarrassed whole tables.

MATTHEW 25:35-45

“I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me....

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

The idea that “the least of these” were to be treasured — that somehow the Jesus that they followed was present in despised suffering — It created a new vision of the human being.

**Let us minister to Christ’s needs. Let us give Christ nourishment.
Let us clothe Christ. Let us gather Christ in. Let us show Christ honor.”**

What are you doing? Who are you doing it for? Who are you doing it with?

If we don’t follow Jesus out of here- then we aren’t obedient to our call!

**As we measure out our lives and our legacy and the litmus test of faith
Is will we trust and obey... whatever- whenever- to whoever...**

Lord, show me what You want me to do. And I’ll do it. “I’ll obey, whatever it is..”

“If a duty is clear, the dangers surrounding it are irrelevant.”

OBEDIENCE...

I'll obey and serve You
I'll obey to show I trust You
I'll obey, my life is in Your hands
For it's the way to prove my love
When feelings go away
If it cost me everything- I'll obey

