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To obey is better!

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WHAT'S IN THIS Study?

DAY 1: What Does It Mean to Obey?

DAY 2: Obey Without Delay

DAY 3: Obey Completely

DAY 4: Obey Without Question

DAY 5: Obey Joyfully

DAY 6: It's All About Your Heart

DAY 7: Obedience Shows You Believe

DAY 8: Obedience Shows Love

DAY 9: Obedience Is a Witness to Others

DAY 10: Obedience Brings Blessing

DAY 11: Obedience Is Better

DAY 12: Who Should We Obey?

DAY 13: Obeying Others

DAY 14: Corrupt Leaders

DAY 15: What If I Fail?

DAY 16: An Encouraging Hymn

DAY 17: Trust and Obey

DAY 18: What It Looks Like to Trust and Obey

DAY 19: Sweet Fellowship of Obedience

DAY 20: Don't Just Stand There

Primary Level

DAY

6

It's All About Your Heart

Phew! We've learned 4 ways that God wants us to obey. Let's see if you can remember them now. Look on the next page and add the stickers.

All 4 of those things have something in common—they all involve obeying on the outside.

It's possible that we could obey on the outside, and people would never know that in our hearts, we aren't obeying right away, completely, without question, and joyfully. All 4 of those things start with the heart.

But that doesn't mean we should obey only as much as others see.

Read KEY VERSE  **Samuel 16:7.** What does it tell us about God?

Obeying on the **outside** isn't the goal.
God wants our **hearts**.

Even if everyone else thinks we are obeying, God sees what is in our hearts, and that is what matters to Him the most! That's why all 4 of these things are so important.

Real obedience is obeying with our hearts, and it means we will obey right away, completely, without question, and joyfully.

Which one is the hardest for you? Think about some ways you can work on that one.



Trace the word “obey” and add stickers to help you remember the words.

God wants me to

OBEY

without delay,

completely,

without
question,

and joyfully.

Pray and ask God to help you!

Junior Level

DAY

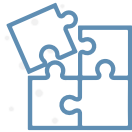
6

It's All About Your Heart

Phew! We've learned 4 ways that God wants us to obey. Let's see if you can remember them now. Look at each picture and fill in the blanks.



God wants me to **obey** _____
_____.



God wants me to **obey** _____.



God wants me to **obey** _____
_____.



God wants me to **obey** _____.

Now look carefully at all 4 of those sentences. Do you notice something that they have in common?

They all involve obeying on the outside. But that doesn't mean we should obey only as much as others see.

It's possible that we could obey on the outside, and people would never know that in our hearts, we aren't obeying right away, completely, without question, and joyfully. All 4 of those things start with the heart.

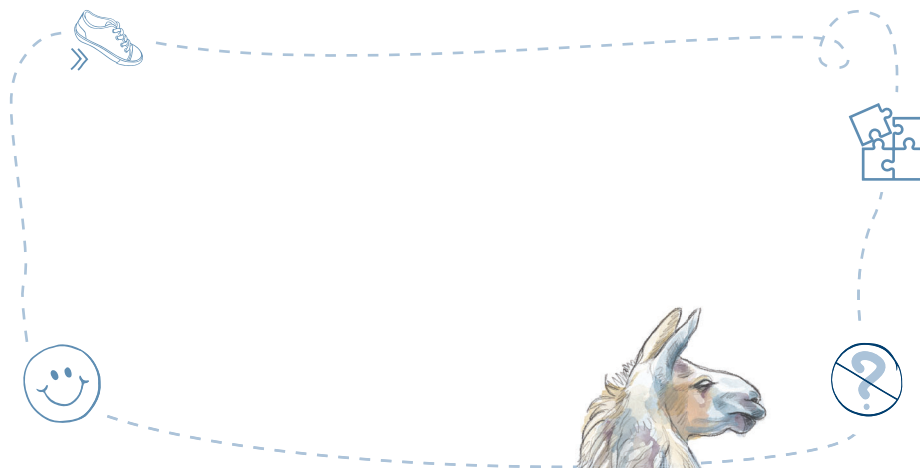
Read ^{KEYVERSE} **1 Samuel 16:7**. What does it tell us about God?

Even if everyone else thinks we are obeying, God sees what is in our hearts, and that is what matters to Him the most! That's why all 4 of these things are so important.

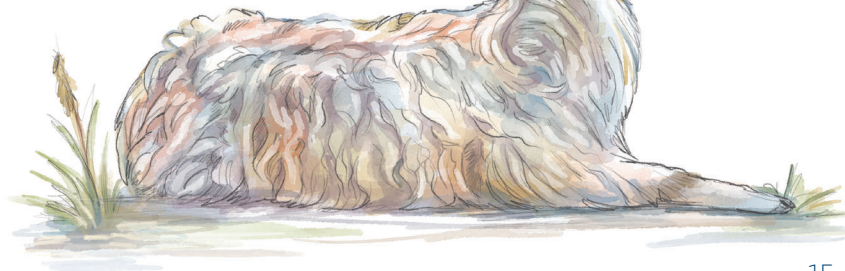
Obeying on the **outside** isn't the goal.
God wants our **hearts**.

Real obedience is obeying with our hearts, and it means we will obey right away, completely, without question, and joyfully.

Which one is the hardest for you? Think about some ways you can work on that one.



Pray and ask God to help you!



Youth Level

DAY

6

It's All About Your Heart

You've learned four specific ways God instructs us to obey. List them below.
Look back at Days 2-5 if you can't remember them.



God desires that we *obey* without _____.



God desires that we *obey* _____.



God desires that we *obey* without _____.



God desires that we *obey* _____.

Now look carefully at all 4 of those sentences. Do you notice something that they have in common?

It's possible that we could obey on the outside, and people would never know that in our hearts, we aren't obeying right away, completely, without question, and joyfully. All 4 of those things start with the heart. But that doesn't mean we should obey only as much as others see.

Obeying on the *outside* isn't the goal.

God wants our *hearts*.

Read  *1 Samuel 16:7*.

What does it tell us about God?

Even if everyone else thinks we are obeying, God sees what is in our hearts, and that is what matters to Him the most! That's why all 4 of these things are so important.

Real obedience is obeying with our hearts, and it means we will obey without delay, completely, without question, and joyfully. Of these 4, which one is your biggest struggle right now, and why?



What are some specific things you can do to work on this? For each box, list ideas for how you can show God and your parents obedience. For example, for obeying without delay, perhaps one thing you can work on is saying “Yes, ma’am” as soon as you are asked to do something.

Obey Without Delay



Obey Completely



Obey Without Question



Obey Joyfully



Pray and ask God to help you obey the way He desires.



Parent Guide

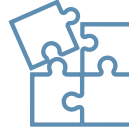
DAY 6

It's All About Your Heart

You've learned four specific ways God instructs us to obey. List them below.
Look back at Days 2-5 if you can't remember them.



God wants me to *obey* without



God wants me to *obey*



God wants me to *obey* without



God wants me to *obey*

Now look carefully at all 4 of those sentences. Do you notice something that they have in common?

It's possible that we could obey on the outside, and people would never know that in our hearts, we aren't obeying right away, completely, without question, and joyfully. All 4 of those things start with the heart.

This is something many Christian kids struggle with, and sometimes it's our fault as parents. We threaten public behavior but get a little lazy about what happens in our homes. (I'm totally guilty of this myself—sometimes it's easier to let it go!)

But there is something important we need to understand about obedience here. We can NEVER make our kids obey—at least not in their hearts. That's up to them, and that's the part that really matters.

Read  **1 Samuel 16:7**. What does it tell us about God?

Obeying on the *outside* isn't the goal. God wants our *hearts*.

Even if everyone else thinks we are obeying, God sees what is in our hearts, and that is what matters to Him the most! That's why all 4 of these things are so important.

Real obedience is obeying with our hearts, and it means we will obey right away, completely, without question, and joyfully. Of these four, which one is your biggest struggle right now, and why?

As your kids wrestle with obedience, remember that your goal isn't to raise kids who look good on the outside. This will take some reminding because it's our natural desire to judge our parenting success on what our kids do on the outside. But the real test of obedience is what you do when no one is looking.

Remember that we have the calling to teach, lead, and pray. We can and will influence them, but ultimately it will be up to God to draw our children to Himself. Write a prayer about that here.

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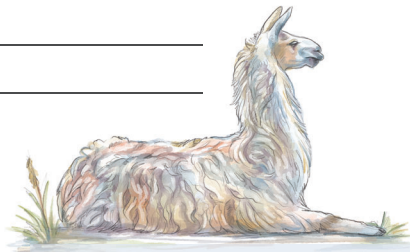
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As your kids review today, make it fun! Try role-playing common situations where your kids are asked to obey, then have them act out the response. Let someone else be the mom, and you can watch or even play the kid part! Role-play is a great way to practice obedience, and practice makes perfect, right? (OK, not perfect, but it will help!)

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:7

Key Truth: Obeying on the outside isn't our goal. God wants our hearts.

Discussion: Which of the four ways to obey is hardest for you? What can you do to improve?



INCLUDES:



OBEY:

A biblical study on the importance of obedience



MY BROTHER'S KEEPER:

A biblical study on loving your siblings



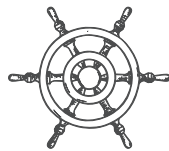
MAKING PEACE:

A biblical study on conflict resolution



BECOMING A SERVANT:

A biblical study on serving like Jesus



NAVIGATING FRIENDSHIPS:

God's perfect plan for friends

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