

Deeper Life Notes

Confidence without Compromise,
Radical Obedience – Judges 6:25-32
Pastor Dan Osborn, April 24, 2016



Watertown
Evangelical
Free Church

"Confidence without compromise requires radical obedience"

Read

Judges 6:25-32

25 That night the Lord said to him, "Take your father's bull, and the second bull seven years old, and pull down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the Asherah that is beside it 26 and build an altar to the Lord your God on the top of the stronghold here, with stones laid in due order. Then take the second bull and offer it as a burnt offering with the wood of the Asherah that you shall cut down." 27 So Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the Lord had told him. But because he was too afraid of his family and the men of the town to do it by day, he did it by night.

28 When the men of the town rose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was broken down, and the Asherah beside it was cut down, and the second bull was offered on the altar that had been built. 29 And they said to one another, "Who has done this thing?" And after they had searched and inquired, they said, "Gideon the son of Joash has done this thing." 30 Then the men of the town said to Joash, "Bring out your son, that he may die, for he has broken down the altar of Baal and cut down the Asherah beside it." 31 But Joash said to all who stood against him, "Will you contend for Baal? Or will you save him? Whoever contends for him shall be put to death by morning. If he is a god, let him contend for himself, because his altar has been broken down." 32 Therefore on that day Gideon was called Jerubbaal, that is to say, "Let Baal contend against him," because he broke down his altar.

Consider & Discuss

"The pursuit of practice of radical obedience starts with hearing from God." How would you define radical obedience? Give examples of radical obedience

Study & Discuss

1. Hear God's Voice: "The LORD said..."
 - What have you heard from God in the last 48 hours?
 - If you haven't heard from God, what is standing in the way?

Here are some tips for hearing from God, pray, read God's Word, communicate to others, ask for accountability.

Discovery Bible Study – Steps to hearing from and obeying God

- What are you thankful for this past week?
- What challenges or stresses are you facing this week?
- How did it go, sharing with _____?
(Accountability based on "I will" statement last week).
- God's Word: "Read... read... retell... details" (Helps application and memorization)
- What do I learn about God? People? What do I need to obey?
Where do you find that in this passage?
- As a result of what I learned, I will _____.
- Who needs to hear this in the upcoming week? Who will I share this with?

2. Heed God's Words

"Take your father's bull, and the second bull seven years old, and **pull** down the altar of Baal that your father has, and **cut** down the Asherah that is beside it 26 and **build** an altar to the Lord your God on the top of the stronghold here, with stones laid in due order. Then **take** the second bull and **offer** it as a burnt offering with the wood of the Asherah that you shall cut down."

Pray

Notice the verbs...

What is God asking of us? What are His commands? Are there things we are to take, pull, cut, build, offer?

Read & Study

Romans 12:2, Matthew 5:22, Matthew 5:28, Matthew 5:34, Matthew 5:39, Matthew 5:44, Hebrews 13:1-6, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, 1 Peter 2:15

If you have heard from God, What have you done about it?

"As a result of what I have heard/learned I will _____."

What exactly is obedience? from Judges 6:27

"So Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the Lord had told him. He did as the Lord told him."

Principles of Obedience from *Growing Kids God's Way* by Gary and Anne Marie Ezzo

1. Obedience is immediate
2. Obedience is without complaint
3. Obedience is without challenges
4. Obedience is complete

2. Hope in God's Plan

What can you expect when you hear God's voice, heed His ways and hope in his plan regardless of the consequences?

Expectations to Consider

You will see yourself differently - Peter 2:11 says aliens and strangers, stewards of God's gifts (talent, time, treasure) from 1 John 3:1-3, Titus 2:1-13

Your values will change: from earthly to heavenly-minded - Matthew 6:19-21

Boldness and courage will blossom - Based on Philemon 1, "In other words, a biblical hope is never an escape from reality or from problems. It doesn't leave us idle, drifting or just rocking on the front porch. If our hope is biblical and not just a heavenly cliché or like the sign, "in case of emergency, break glass," it will put us in gear." (biblegateway.com) Hope has rewards and blessings

Expect joy and peace - *Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.* Romans 15:13

Expect God's protection - *Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope for His loving kindness,* Psalm 33:18

Expect strength, courage, boldness - *Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who hope in the LORD!* Psalm 31:24

Expect endurance, comfort, confidence in the face of death - *But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve, as do the rest who have no hope.* 1 Thessalonians 4:13

Expect confidence in ministry - *For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.* 1 Timothy 4:10