

# The Lordship of Jesus Christ

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To say, "Lord," presupposes obedience.

Synonyms - Lord: someone or something having power, authority, or influence; a master or ruler.

Luke 6:46 "And why call ye me Lord, Lord when ye do not the things I say?"

Someone or something will have control over your life, it all depends to whom or what you submit. II Peter 2:19 (b) "...for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought into bondage."

In this workshop, we will focus on two aspects of The Wheel Illustration, i.e., the Hub and the Rim:

## **The Hub**

Christ the Center - II Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20

Just as the hub is the source of power and energy in a wheel, Jesus Christ is the source of power and energy in the life of a believer. To accomplish His work in the world, Jesus Christ must be recognized and submitted to as Lord of All!

Christ will indeed be Lord upon His return (Revelation 19:11-16), but He wants to be Lord in our lives right now. Philippians 3:20-21

John Crawford used to say, "We are now living out the life of Jesus Christ. He died that we might live. We die that we might live!" Galatians 2:20; Hebrews 7:25; II Corinthians 4:10.

John 13:13 NKJV "You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am."

## **The Rim**

Obedience to Christ - Romans 12:1; John 14:21

The rim represents the Christian responding to Christ's lordship through wholehearted, day-to-day obedience to Him. Luke 9:23 JBP "Then he spoke to them all. "If anyone wants to follow in my footsteps, *he must give up all right to himself, carry his cross every day and keep close behind me.*"

Obedience is a willingness to be subject to the will of another. For the Christian, this means being subject to the laws and commands of God.

The choice we have is not *whether*, or not, we are going to obey someone, but *whom* we are going to obey. The Bible tells us that to whatever we yield ourselves or offer ourselves, to that we are a slave.

Romans 6:16 “Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?”

Simple obedience to God proves that we believe Him and are willing to act upon what He says.

Obedience is active worship of God.

1 Samuel 15:22-23 So Samuel said: “Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He also has rejected you from being king.”

Obedience is essential to Abiding in Christ. John 15:10 “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

- You can’t bear fruit without abiding. John 15:4 “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

- You bear much fruit through abiding. John 15:5 “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

Oswald Chambers - “And yet, all of Almighty God is ours in Jesus Christ. And He will reach to the last grain of sand and to the remotest star to bless us if we will only *obey* Him.” “As soon as I *obey* I fulfill my spiritual destiny. When I obey Jesus Christ in the seemingly random circumstances of life, they become pinholes through which I see the face of Christ. Someday, when I stand face-to-face with God, I will discover that through my *obedience* thousands were blessed.”

When we are obedient, His grace is free to work in, and through, our lives in order to accomplish His purposes. John 15:5; John 6:63 “The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life.” And, We are transformed into the image of Jesus Christ. II Corinthians 3:18; Romans 12:2

## Application

The First Commandment says, "You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3

Evaluate your life in light of the Lust of the Flesh, Lust of the Eyes, and Pride of Life as listed in I John 2:15-16. Is there anything standing between you and God, right now?

Dr. F. B. Meyer came to a crucial, transitional time in his ministry. He sat dejectedly in his study. "My ministry is unfruitful, and I lack spiritual power," he said to himself. Suddenly Christ seemed to stand beside him. "Let me have the keys to your life," Christ said. The experience was so realistic that he reached into his pocket and took out a bunch of keys! "Are all the keys here?" "Yes, Lord, all except the key to one small room in my life." Christ said: "If you cannot trust me in all rooms of your life, I cannot accept any of the keys."

Dr. Meyer was so overwhelmed with the feeling that Christ was moving out of his life because he was excluding Him from one interest in his life that he cried out, "Come back, Lord, and take the keys to all the rooms of my life!"

Ask the Lord if there is anything in your life that is preventing Him from being Lord of your life. Psalm 139:23-24. If the Lord brings something to mind; confess, forsake, and press on!

As used in the Bible, *believe* is defined as Conviction based on testimony that something is true or that someone is reliable. As used in the Bible, to believe in God involves the element of trust, not mere acknowledgment of his existence.

Can you trust Jesus?

Do you trust Jesus?

If not, what else would Jesus have to do to earn your trust and full commitment to Him?

We should forsake anything that hinders His working through us. "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep for that which he cannot lose." Jim Elliot

Finally, Obedience requires discipline!

Example - Ephesians 5:25 "Husbands love your wives..."; Word, prayer, etc. Do it out of faith and obedience and you'll feel like it! J. Allen Peterson, "You don't feel yourself into a new way of acting, you *act* yourself into a new way of feeling."