

# Kingdom Call – Radical Obedience

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Obedience as a concept has many negative associations and connotations these days. Over and over, whether in the media or in the internet, we are told to “be ourselves”, and not follow others. Freedom is one of the sacred concepts that permeate subconsciously in all aspects of our society here in Australia – freedom from any boundaries, shackles or constraints. Is it any surprise that the idea of obedience has fallen on hard times? Obedience by its nature requires us to forsake others to the exclusion of one. It is impossible for us to obey more than one master at the same time.

In this passage, we see Jesus calling on his disciples to hear his words and put it into practice. In other words, he calls us not to be only hearers of the Word, but also doers of the Word – radical obedience. Let us see what this passage can teach us.

## Launch

- 1) Despite society’s eschewal of obedience, who or what do they follow/obey? Who do you follow/obey?

## The Wish and Foolish Builders

**Read Luke 6:46-49**

- 2) Who is Jesus addressing in this passage? (cf. Luke 6:20)
  - a. Describe the apparent inconsistency/contradiction that Jesus shows in v46.
- 3) Draw (to the best of your ability) the analogy of the two builders that Jesus describes from v47-49
- 4) What is the main difference between the wise and the foolish builders in their work?
  - a. Which builder’s work is faster and easier, and which builder’s work is harder and slower? What is the result of each builders’ work?
- 5) How does Jesus relate his analogy to obeying his words/commands? (v47, 49)
  - a. Which one of these is the harder one to do? What do you think is the result of that?



- 6) What are some things that you can do to help you “lay a strong foundation on the rock” for your Christian life?
  - a. What are some of the blessings that come with our obedience to Jesus?
  - b. Why do you think that most of us find it to be obedient to Jesus?
- 7) Based on what Jesus said in v46, how should his disciples view who he is?
  - a. What should change in our thinking about who Jesus is to us to help us obey him better?

**Read Philippians 2:5-13**

- 8) In what way was Jesus himself obedient? (v8)
- 9) What was the result of Jesus’ obedience? (v9-11)
- 10) Because of Jesus’ obedience, he was exalted by God to be king over the universe. With his exaltation, what does Paul asks Christians to do? (v12-13)
- 11) What are some areas in your life that you need to be obedient to Jesus today?
  - a. How can your small group can help you in that area?
  - b. How should your view about who Jesus is change to help you in your obedience?

Jesus calls for obedience from his followers. If they acknowledge that he is indeed their Lord and King, it only makes sense that they will be obey and follow everything that this king says. It is a blatant inconsistency if one should acknowledge that Jesus is king, and yet not obey what he says. Being obedience might be slow and hard for some of us, but Jesus assures us that it can only bring about blessings in our lives. It may never be material blessings (take Jesus’ own example), but the greatest blessings in all of the universe came through Jesus being obedient to God.

Our king calls us to follow him and to obey him. He himself has been through that process, so he knows what it is like and what it means. It is because of his humble obedience, he has been exalted to be the king of the universe. This is a king who willingly sacrifices for his people. He calls his followers now to obey him and put his words into practice. How can we acknowledge that he is our Lord and not do as he says? How can we not be grateful and obey this king who loved us and gave himself for us?