

## Session 4 Leader Guide

### OUTLINE

- I. The person who trembles at God's Word will obey God immediately.
  - A. One man whom Jesus asked to follow Him requested to first bury his father (see Luke 9:59).
  - B. Another man requested that Jesus first allow him to say goodbye to his family (see Luke 9:61).
  - C. When what is not sin takes precedence over the Word of the Lord, it becomes sin.
  
- II. Those who tremble at God's Word obey God even when it doesn't make sense.
  - A. What God commands will not always make sense through the lens of our world.
  - B. Jesus said that "wisdom is shown ... by its results" (Matthew 11:19<sub>NLT</sub>).
  - C. When we choose to obey God, even if it doesn't make sense to us, the results will be amazing.
  
- III. Those who tremble at God's Word obey even when they don't see a personal benefit.
  - A. The church in America often attaches obeying God to a personal benefit.
  - B. The reality is that obeying God is reward enough.
  - C. The story of Esther is a good example of this principle (see Esther 4:16).
  
- IV. Those who tremble at God's Word obey even when it's painful.
  - A. Jesus humbled Himself even unto death (see Philippians 2:8).
  - B. False religions will seek out suffering in order to please little-g gods.
  - C. The fear of the Lord allows us to endure suffering as service to God.
  
- V. Those who tremble at God's Word obey God to completion.
  - A. Saul's failure to fully obey the Lord God caused him to be disqualified (see 1 Samuel 15:3,26).
  - B. *Almost* complete obedience to God is not obedience to God.
  - C. Followers of Jesus have a duty to obey the Lord (see Luke 17:10).

# Journey CHURCH

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Those who fear God's Word obey the Lord *immediately*. When is a time in your life that you failed to act on what God was telling you to do immediately? What happened as a result?
2. Those who fear God's Word obey the Lord *even when it doesn't make sense to them*. When is a time in your life that God asked you to do something that at first didn't make sense to you or to those around you? If you obeyed the Lord in that situation, what benefits did you receive?
3. Those who fear God's Word obey the Lord *even when they don't see a personal benefit in it for them*. Our culture encourages us to ask "what is in it for us" and not act on something if we don't think we will gain a reward. Where do you see the church today trying to make obedience more appealing by making promises or attaching rewards for submitting to Scripture?
4. Those who fear God's Word obey the Lord *even if it's painful*. When has God asked you to do something that you knew would require a sacrifice?
5. Those who fear God's Word obey the Lord to *completion*. In other words, they do not settle for "almost" or "close enough" but choose to obey God all the way. How can you know when you have been faithful in carrying out everything that God has asked you to do?