



THE FLIPSIDE OF OBEDIENCE

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2017

KEY SCRIPTURE | Mark 6:45–52

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Being a kid is tough. Especially when your parents make you do something you really don't want to do—brush your teeth, ride your bike without training wheels, do your homework, save up for that toy you really want. Sometimes you don't like it because it's hard or scary, and other times you don't like it because it's difficult or requires some waiting.

But what do parents say when you complain about these things? "It's good for you," "You'll understand when you're older," "Trust me." Whether you like to admit it or not, they're usually right. Sometimes, when you don't listen to them, you end up wishing you had. And when you're old enough to understand, you realize you took their wisdom for granted.

Our relationship with God is a lot like that. He calls us to do things—sometimes difficult, scary, or strange things—because He knows what's best for us. When we don't obey, we face the consequences. When we do choose to obey, we get to take advantage of His wisdom and plan for our lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share about a time you disobeyed your parents. What happened? What did you learn?
2. Looking back at your notes from Sunday's message, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
3. What do you think the disciples were thinking when they saw Jesus walking toward them on the water?
4. What role does comfort play in how you follow Jesus?
5. Read Mark 6:45–52. It says the disciples didn't understand the loaves. What does that mean? Why is it pertinent to the story?
6. Has there been a time in your life when God asked you to do something hard? What did you do?

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

This week, dedicate time to praying about obedience. Ask God if there's something uncomfortable He's telling you to do.

