

Theme Our Discipleship Journey
Topic Discipleship in BBTC
Speaker DSP Chua Seng Lee
29th & 30th October 2016

Message Summary

Spiritual Objective: Developing the Heart of Obedience.

DSP spoke of the example of his experience trying to start a keyless car. While it is an exciting piece of technology, knowing most of the steps to starting the car is not enough. We need to know the key step; without depressing the brake, you cannot start the car. In the same way, we may be gifted with talents from the Lord, but without the key component of **obedience**, we miss the core and heart of discipleship. Without obedience, we cannot access the full promises of God. With it, however, all the promises of God are available to us.

Why Discipleship in BBTC?

There are 3 key points to why we are so committed to discipleship:

1. IT IS HIS COMMAND; SO OBEY

While some may conclude that "Go" is the keyword of the great commission, DSP suggests that it is not going which is key, but making disciples. It is not enough to merely inform the lost about Jesus, we have to make disciples out of them; it is paramount to teach them to hear and obey the Word of God. Since teaching the nations to obey the Word of God is our mission, it is of critical importance that we obey this command to impart it. To add weight to the importance of obedience, scriptures warn us on numerous occasions on the cost of disobedience.

If we hear the Word of the Lord but do not obey, we doom ourselves with a shaky foundation that cannot stand the troubles of life (Matthew 7:26-27). Alternatively, we can end up as "keyboard warriors", people who may have an opinion about most things – yet our opinions have no value. Without the wisdom that comes from obeying the lord, our opinions could sound correct but be very wrong. The worst possible outcome of merely knowing the Word but not obeying it is *pride*. Knowledge without obedience leads to pride, and the Lord opposes the proud (James 4:6).



It should be noted that these 3 effects are not mutually exclusive. We need to take care to not fall into these categories. However, what we should be focusing on is obeying the Lord. He desires it more than our sacrifices (1 Samuel 15:22), and it delights the Lord. This is made possible by the Holy Spirit, who enables us to will and to do what pleases the Lord.

2. IT IS OUR COMMITMENT; WE OBEY

The importance of obedience has been established and so as BBTC we respond. We desire to grow from New Disciples to Growing Disciples and eventually Maturing Disciples. It is our goal to develop Priests and Kings but we cannot do so without first being Priests and Kings ourselves. BBTC offers many training courses to enable us to grow; these courses include Restoring the foundations (RTF), which helps us with our spiritual baggage, and DTC classes, which train us in the way of the Lord. These courses are available to all of us, and we should be equipped as necessary.

3. IT IS HIS COURSE; WE BECOME BETTER WHEN WE OBEY

We need to impart the importance of obedience to new believers. As it stands, we often stop the discipleship process after telling them the good news, but we fail to teach them how to apply the Word. Even after we have decided to truly make disciples, we need to develop the skill of nurturing them. We need to help them truly learn, a difficult task in and of itself. Thankfully, we may emulate Paul, who used various methods and worked extremely hard, all the while depending on God's power to pull him through.

In the discipleship of others, we grow in our faith as well. Don't miss out on this!



Questions

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On a scale of 1 to $7-1$ being completely disobedient, 7 being completely obedient – how obedient are you to the Word of God? Share your reasons for this score.
(Jill In Answer Here)
What are the areas in your life where you find the discipleship journey easy? What are some areas where you find it difficult?
(Fill In Answer Here)
Who was the last person you tried to engage in the disciple-making process? How was the process like? (If you have never tried to disciple anyone before, ask the Lord for someone whom you can approach. Write the person's name down and make intentional steps to connect with him or her soon.)
(Fill In Answer Here)