

But / Kind of Did / It ☆

I'm greatly indebted to Tim Hawks for today's outline

REALife Application

Obedience: Compliance with the demands or requests of one in authority.

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or REALife Group.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLE: Saul

1 Samuel 15:1-23

A Clear Mandate

A List of Creative Excuses

A Lesson about the Concerns of God

APPLICATION:

1. Obedience recognizes that we never outgrow authority.
2. Partial obedience is no substitute for obedience.
3. Our obedience to God and our authorities is the highest act of worship.

1. The concept of “holy war” is difficult for us to understand. Why did God tell Saul to destroy the Amalekites? See Exodus 17:8-16; Numbers 24:20; Deut. 25:17-19; 1 Samuel 15:18.
2. In both the Old and New Testaments, the words for obedience are closely associated with the words for hearing. Why? What do we need from God to obey? See Psalms 95:7b-8; Matt. 11:15.
3. What authorities has God given you to obey? Find a passage of Scripture that gives you the command to obey each authority. (e.g., government officials – Romans 13:1-5)
4. Should you expect and demand obedience from your child? If you allow your child to disobey you and show disrespect, what are you teaching him/her? How can parents and other adults demonstrate obedience to authority?

Memory Verse

To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. – 1 Samuel 15:22b