

## **Weekly Devotions: TO LOVE GOD IS TO OBEY HIM 2**

### **Obedience is the Measure of our Love for God.**

The Church today suffers from 3 crippling and even fatal diseases; bible illiteracy, false teachings and believers not taking the commands of God seriously. Disregard for God's word has led to shallowness of faith that cannot stand the test of temptations, trials and time.

Faith that is not strongly rooted in Scriptures has led to believers embracing all kinds of false teachings. Also, instead of living according to God's word, many believers behave no different from those in the world in order to fit in and be accepted. This has resulted in the Church losing her cutting edge and credibility as God's light and salt in the world.

Karl Rahner, a German theologian, once said, "The number one cause of atheism is Christians. Those who proclaim God with their mouths and deny Him with their lifestyles are what an unbelieving world finds simply unbelievable."

If we truly love God, we want to glorify and honor Him with our lives. If we truly trust Him, we will do what He commands.

### **Read John 14: 15-24**

Jesus states very clearly in John 14: 15; "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." To God, love and obedience are two sides of the same coin. We cannot say we love God and not take His teachings and commands seriously. A heart that loves God will want to please Him by doing His will and obeying His word.

Matthew Henry, the commentary writer, said; "Love is the root; obedience is the fruit". A readiness to obey God and comply with His commands is proof of our faithfulness and love for Him.

### *Questions to ponder*

1. How has your love for God changed the way you behave, speak and relate to people?
2. What did Jesus emphasize in vs. 15, 21, 23 and 24 and what would happen when we do what Jesus commanded (21-23)? What does it mean for you to take what Jesus said seriously?
3. Which particular commandment of God or teaching of Jesus do you struggle with? What do you need to do so that you may obey God in this area?

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