



## Faith, Love, Obedience

*By Derek Kiser on October 19, 2021*

### **READING:** 1 John 5

This passage states several characteristics of a believer in the first five verses. Faith in Jesus Christ is a key and obvious requirement. As we studied yesterday in 1 John 4, love is another. Another we do not really like to talk about as much is obedience to God and His commandments. I remember asking a mature Christian woman here in our church, "How do you know a student is a believer?" Her response, "College." What she meant was do they follow God in college, do they live out their faith outside of their parents' homes? Do they find a church and get plugged in? Most people like the idea of a Jesus who saves us from Hell but are not as excited to make Him Lord of their lives and be obedient to Him.

I have a three-year-old boy. He is very much three right now, if you know what I mean. He currently has a listening problem. My wife and I ask him to be a good listener and then tell him not to scream in his brother's face or throw toys. He then screams or throws toys and we ask the question we know the answer to, "Jackson, are you being a good listener?" We can say we are a Christ follower, we can put the fish sticker on our car, speak the language and go to church, but if we are not at the very least attempting to be obedient to what God has asked us to do; what does that say? Are we really following Christ?

Another point in this section resonates with me even more as a parent. Verse 3 "And his commandments are not burdensome." Jesus is giving us very few commands and we have freedom in Christ. This is being compared to the Old Testament sacrificial system and Jewish faith. Christianity compared to Judaism is obviously the more freeing one. We have so much freedom in Christ. Back to my three-year-old. We have rules like hold our hand while walking to the car, do not touch the stove--basics like that. Those are to keep my son safe, not to be overbearing. I often tell students God is not some mean dad in the sky who is a giant kill joy. When God tells us to do or not do something it is not oppressive, it is to help us, to keep us safe. God wants what is best for us. Our obedience is agreeing with God that He knows what is best for us and our lives. It is not a burden, it is protection.

**PRAYER:** God, help me today to follow your commandments for my life. Help me to see You know what is best and You have a better perspective than me.

### **TOMORROW'S READING:** 1 John 6

*Copyright © 2021 First Baptist Church, Fort Mill, SC, All rights reserved.*

Visit our website

First Baptist Church | (803)547-2051 | 121 Monroe White St., Fort Mill, SC 29715 | fbcfm.com

First Baptist Church Fort Mill | 121 Monroe White St., Fort Mill, SC 29715

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#).

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by fbcfortmill@comporium.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!