

The Vine

I am the vine; you are the branches...John 15:5

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

July 2023

Obedience to the Lord can be a tricky concept. On the surface, it seems very straightforward. The Bible says it so we should obey it.

It is like when a parent tells a child to obey, "Because I said so." Since our heavenly Father is perfect in wisdom, power, knowledge and love, His "because I said so," statement is perfect and we should have no problem obeying him.

However, we are also told that our relationship to the Father is one of love. We are adopted into God's family by grace and there is nothing we can do to earn our salvation.

The Pharisees' interpretation of the Law added their oral tradition to God's commands and placed a burden upon God's people that they couldn't bear. They had developed hundreds of extra rules they claimed would make one faithful to the teachings of the law and prophets.

Today, many see obedience to God's word just as burdensome. It is seen as a checklist to keep in good standing with God. If we don't check off the boxes, we are somehow 'less than' in the kingdom. We want our interaction with God to be based on relationship, not rules.

What is the balance between grace and obedience? God loves us and sent Jesus to die for our sins. His payment is a gift of grace. We can only enter into a relationship with God by faith in Christ through grace.

After that, we still need God's grace daily because we sin daily. The purpose of daily grace is not permission to openly continue in sin. It is not freedom to avoid obedience. We aren't free to sin simply because we know God will graciously forgive us. Grace isn't for our planned moral failures, but for when we stumble as we obediently walk with Jesus.

God's love never changes, but he still expects obedience. Our obedience to God isn't for love, but comes from love. We can't earn salvation no matter how well we keep the rules. Since the Lord loves us and saved us by grace,

our response is to love him in return. That love leads us to want to obey his commands.

Join us in God's word this month to see what his word tells us about obedience. There is blessing in the obeying the Lord!

Mike

WHAT THE WORD SAYS ABOUT

OBEDIENCE

- July 1: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-19
- July 2: Genesis 6:8-7:5
- July 3: Genesis 22:1-18
- July 4: Deuteronomy 5:1-21
- July 5: Deuteronomy 5:22-33
- July 6: Deuteronomy 6:1-9
- July 7: Joshua 1:1-9
- July 8: 1 Samuel 15:1-23
- July 9: Psalm 1
- July 10: Psalm 19:7-14
- July 11: Psalm 119:9-16
- July 12: Psalm 119:105-112
- July 13: Proverbs 3:1-8
- July 14: Jeremiah 7:23-28
- July 15: Ezekiel 11:14-21
- July 16: Matthew 7:21-27
- July 17: Matthew 28:16-20
- July 18: Mark 12:28-34
- July 19: John 3:16-36
- July 20: John 14:15-27
- July 21: John 15:1-17
- July 22: Acts 4:18-20; 5:25-32
- July 23: Romans 1:1-6; 16:25-27
- July 24: Romans 6:15-19
- July 25: 2 Corinthians 10:1-6
- July 26: Ephesians 5:22-6:9
- July 27: Philippians 2:1-18
- July 28: James 1:19-27
- July 29: 1 Peter 1:13-25
- July 30: 1 John 2:1-6; 3:19-24
- July 31: 1 John 5:1-5

GUEST SPEAKER

Sunday, July 16th, Philip McAfee will be With us. He will share about the ministry in Brazil during the Sunday School hour.



If you would like to be included on the text Prayer chain, notify Mike, by text, at 785-817-6920

A male volunteer is needed to pick up and take back home, individuals (possibly 1-2) from VMHC who would like to come to Church Service. For details contact to Mike.



Men's Breakfast: men's breakfast will be Saturday, July 8th at 8 AM. Kevin Gatzemeyer is cooking.

Pocket Change for Progress: Please continue saving your pocket change for VFCC youth programs and School Supply Project. There is a bucket for your change anytime, not just the third Sunday.

On line sermon opportunity: For those tuning in at home, church service will be available to live stream on YouTube (and Facebook). Also available on YouTube, previous services.

Don't forget to subscribe to Valley Falls Christian Church YouTube channel



Sermon Series, Scripture

- July 02 **Independence Day**
The Rejected Son
Mark 12:1-9
- July 09 It's a Trap!
Mark 12:18-27
- July 16 End Times Proclamations
Mark 13:14-23
- July 23 The Lord's Supper
Mark 14:22-25
- July 30 Betrayed by a Kiss
Mark 14:43-50

July	Greeters Communion Prep	Scripture	Devotion	Servers	Nursery
02	B Boyce	R. Mitchell Mark 12:1-9	Stan Farr	Jay/Stan/ Steve /Jackson	Debbie/Rhonda
09	Gatzemeyer	Gatzemeyer Mark 12:18-27	Stan Farr	Jay/Stan// Brian /Aaron	Leane/Kinzi
16	Welborn	Welborn Mark 13:14-23	Stan Farr	Jay/Stan/ Ray /Chad	Brittany/Malia
23	Durand	Durand Mark 14:22-25	Stan Farr	Jay/Stan/ Kyle /Clinton	Tiffany/Abby
30	Gerstner	Gerstner Mark 14:43-50	Stan Farr	Stan/Jay/ Jarret /Charles	Aisha/Dakota

July communion devotion and prayer: Stan Farr

Prayer Requests: Becky Arnold, Christy Arnold, Emma Dockweiler, Neveah Rivera, Leah Brown, Joan Hosler, Donna Slavens

OUR SOLDIERS: Curtis Mitchell, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam, Noe Garza, Gary Flack, Dayton Flack

Church Offerings:

May 07 \$ 1668
 May 14 \$ 1103
 May 21 \$ 1715
 May 28 \$ 818

Give to VFCC online through our partnership with Gyve at:

<https://gyve.io/give/>

Scan the QR code to download the Gyve app.



July Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 5 Laura Reich
- 8 Allene Mattox
- 10 Tiffany Spencer
- 11 PHIL & TABITA MCAFEE (1981)
- 19 Abby GrandPre
- 20 Aleyna GrandPre
- 22 Mike Kirby
Jacob Mitchell
- 24 Christy Arnold
- 25 Wade Boyce
- 28 Jade Thayer
- 31 CINDY SHEAD



Valley Falls Christian Church

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Valley Falls, KS 66088

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

Phone: 785-945-6757
Email: office@valleyfallsc.org
On the web: www.valleyfallsc.org
Find us on Facebook!

Mike Kirby, Pastor

You are welcome to join us!

Sunday Service times:

Bible Study (all ages) – 9:00 AM

Worship – 10:00 AM

Youth Group (grades 7-12) – 5:00 PM

Midweek:

Sunday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday/Friday	Saturday
				1
2	3	5	6/7	8
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters			8 AM Men's Breakfast
9	10	12	13/14	15
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters	8 PM Church Board Meeting		
16	17	19	20/21	22
5 PM – Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters			
23/30	24	26	27/28	29
5 PM Youth Group	1:30 PM Sunflower Crafters			