

Under New Management Week 4

Key Scripture

- **John 6:53-68:** Jesus teaches about being the bread of life; many desert Him, but Peter affirms faith in His words of eternal life.
- **Psalm 16:11:** In God's presence is fullness of joy.
- **Psalm 119:105:** God's Word is a lamp and light for the path.
- **Romans 10:17:** Faith comes by hearing the Word of Christ.
- **Nehemiah 8:10:** The joy of the Lord is your strength.
- **James 1:2-4:** Trials produce joy through tested faith.
- **Galatians 5:19-23:** Contrast between works of the flesh and fruit of the Spirit.
- **2 Corinthians 10:3-5:** Spiritual warfare involves obedience to Christ.
- **John 10:27:** God's sheep hear and follow His voice.

Main Points

1. Lordship is All or Nothing

- Partial obedience is disobedience; true Lordship requires complete submission to Jesus, even when difficult.
- God's best for you is better than your best; trust His plan over your own.

2. Joy in Lordship

- **Faith, Not Feelings:** Joy stems from faith in God's Word, not fleeting emotions driven by circumstances (Romans 10:17).
- **Fruit, Not Flesh:** Living by the Spirit produces joy and godly fruit (love, peace, etc.), while the flesh yields sin and no joy (Galatians 5:19-23).
- **Obedience, Not Ability:** Joy comes from obeying God's voice, not relying on personal strength (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

3. Practical Application

- **Choose God's Path:** Trust God's Word over your limited perspective; His path leads to joy (Psalm 119:105).
- **Reject Fleshly Desires:** Intentional sin forfeits joy; confess and repent to restore fellowship (1 John 1:9).
- **Hear and Obey:** Listen for God's voice and act in obedience, even when you don't understand (John 10:27).

Reflection Questions

1. Are you fully submitted to Jesus' Lordship, or are there areas where you resist obedience?
2. Do you rely more on feelings or faith when facing challenges? How can you shift to faith?
3. What "fleshly" habits or thoughts hinder your joy? How can you replace them with Spirit-led actions?
4. When have you experienced joy from obeying God, even in tough circumstances?

5. How can you better hear and obey God's voice in daily life?

Prayer

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal areas where you're not fully under Jesus' Lordship. Pray for strength to obey, to be led by the Spirit, and to experience the joy of God's best for you.