

## **The Importance of Obedience**

### **Reflection**

As children, did we receive a reward for obeying our parents? What were the consequences for disobeying our parents?

### **Inspiration from the Holy Bible**

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it. (James 1:22-25)

### **Inspiration from the Holy Qur'an**

"O' you who have Faith! Obey Allah and His Messenger, and do not turn away from Him while you hear Him. And be not like those who say: We heard', but they do not hear indeed." (Surah Al-Anfal 8:20-21)

### **Hadith**

'Aisha (RA) narrated, The Prophet (PBUH) said: "Whoever vowed to be obedient to Allah, must be obedient to Him; and whoever vowed to be disobedient to Allah should not be disobedient to Him." (Sahih Bukhari)

### **Why should we obey God?**

- a) Obedience is a sign that we love God.
- b) If you love me, obey my commandments. Anyone who doesn't love me will not obey me. (John 14:15,24)

Obedience brings blessing. Disobedience brings a curse. Even as children, we were rewarded by our parents for heeding their instructions, and scolded or punished for disobeying or ignoring their directives.

You will be blessed if you obey the commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you today. But you will be cursed if you reject the commands of the Lord your God and turn away from him and worship gods you have not known before. (Deuteronomy 11:27-28)

If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully keep all his commands that I am giving you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the world. You will experience all these blessings if you obey the Lord your God: Your towns and your fields will be blessed. Your children and your crops will be blessed. The offspring of your herds and flocks will be blessed. Your fruit baskets and breadboards will be blessed. Wherever you go and whatever you do, you will be blessed. (Deuteronomy 28:1-6)

- c. Obedience precedes prosperity and success. When we obey God, we will not be disappointed. Obeying God in small matters brings big blessings.

Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. (Joshua 1:7-8)

## Challenge

What is our most significant learning today? How will we apply it to our own life?

## Prayer

Praise God for His goodness and grace in our life. Ask forgiveness for our sins. Thank Him for the blessings we have received.

If we have any prayer requests, let us pray for one another.

We end the meeting with this declaration of faith: Lord makes us an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred let us sow love. Where there is injury let us seek pardon. Where there is doubt let us show faith. Where there is despair let us spread hope. Where there is darkness let us shine light. And where there is sadness let us share joy.