Obedience – I Samuel 15:22

*Then Samuel said: Does the LORD take pleasure in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? Look: to obey is better than sacrifice, to pay attention is better than the fat of rams.*

What does it mean to sacrifice? Merriam-Webster defines it as “destruction or surrender of something for the sake of something else” So what does it mean to obey? “To follow commands or guidance of, or to conform or comply with”. To sacrifice also means to offer offering unto God. So why is it better to obey than to sacrifice.

We have already established to sacrifice is giving up something. This is hard for most of us, but we will do it, however we have a harder time obeying. This is because of several things, but the biggest being pride. Most people if not all do not like to be told what to do. We do not like the feeling of being “bossed around.”

We are told throughout the scriptures that we are slaves to Jesus, and as a slave we are no longer in control of what we are to do. If we are told to witness, we must witness, if we are told to give, we are to give. We should not question God and His ways. God told us in Isaiah 55:9 “For as heaven is higher than earth, so My ways are higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.” God always has our best interest at heart.

God will never put us in a situation where He does not know the outcome. God always knows what will happen, weather it be that the person we are witnessing to will accept His calling or no, that is not up to us. Our goal is to obey at all costs, even if it costs us our life. Our lives are not ours once the Holy Spirit comes into our hearts.

Remember this week to obey without question. Also remember that it is Christ who reigns, and we are to obey.