

St John's Meads – Home Groups

God Reigns: An Obedient People



Review: In God Reigns we look at God's relationship with the freed people of Israel as they prepare to enter the land of his covenant promise. It's a defining time of unification and thankfulness, but also a time when the people are reminded of their contract with God; one of love and obedience.



Discuss:

- To whom does our society appear to encourage us to be obedient, primarily? How does God set a different agenda in the Ten Commandments (you may want to read through Deuteronomy 5:1-21 together as a reminder)? How is obedience to God compatible with freedom, for the people of God then and now?
- Look at the First Commandment (Deuteronomy 5:6-7)
 - How demanding does obedience to this seem to us?
 - Review Jesus' teaching in Matthew 19:29 and Luke 14:26-27. Does this change our perspective on the previous question?
 - What challenges does obedience present us with? What helps? What gets in the way?
- How does Jesus' life present us with an illustration of perfect obedience and dependence on God? How has your relationship with Jesus changed your heart already to issues of obedience and dependence? Encourage each other by sharing stories. What further steps can you make?



Pray: that God might continue to change our hearts, so that obedience brings us joy and a growing sense of freedom. That his commandments might be written in those hearts. That we may love the Lord our God with all our hearts, and all our souls and all our mind. That we might love our neighbours as ourselves. Pray that his Spirit will instill in us a perpetual sense of His presence as we face choices, dilemmas and temptation, and that we surrender our own instincts to his desire for us to grow in him.