

## Key Information Page



**Key Thought:**

What is the character trait of obedience? To obey is more than to shake your head and say I will. It is doing something all the way. Only you and God know if you have given your best.



**Key Verse:**

**1Samuel 15:22** *“And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.”*



**Key Teaching Point:**

Be careful with children’s emotions when using the mirror. Some tweens already feel so bad about themselves that what you say may damage them. Besides, God has a way of always letting you know the real you and your character. You may want only other teachers to look into the mirror if you think there may be a problem. Again, you know your students, so follow the Holy Ghost leading for them.



**Key Materials:**

A mirror, a blindfold, pennies, salt, vinegar, two bowls, paper, pencils, a bunch of silk flowers, You may want a keyboard and someone to play if you want to pray for the Holy Ghost at the end.



**Key of making it your own:**

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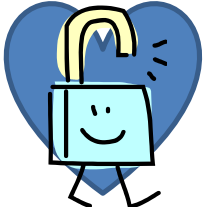
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## Lesson 2

# The Character Trait of Obedience

Unlock their minds by thinking and feeling!



### The Man in the Mirror

Have a person come out holding a mirror. A bigger mirror is better. Explain to the students what “CHARACTER” means. The Dictionary definition of “Character” is: ***“The mental and moral qualities distinctive to an individual.”*** Give some examples. Another definition is, ***“The person you are when no one is looking.”*** One way to think about it is...when I look in the mirror, what do I see? Do I see a liar? Do I see a thief? Do I see a person who listens to, and obeys their Pastor, parents, and teachers? Or, do I see a sullen person that may nod and act compliant, but inwardly has no intention of obedience. Do I see a happy person who is willing to help? Or, do I see an angry person who wants to get out of every obligation? Throughout all of the upcoming lessons we are going to be asking you to take a good hard look at the person you really are. Your character is very important! The Bible says in, **Proverbs 20:11** *“Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.”*

Unlock their minds by doing!



### Think, Pair, Share

In this activity you may have to pair strong readers and writers with weaker ones to make this activity effective, but this is how it works: Groups of two students take one paper and fold it down the center, in half. On the top of the left side write ***“Acts of Obedience”***, then on the right side write ***“Acts of Disobedience”***. Next, the two students or the “Pair” put their heads together and “Think” of as many acts of obedience and disobedience as possible and write them down on paper. Lastly, all the “Pairs” get up and “Share” what they have written with other “Pairs” for two minutes. If time allows, come back together as a group and make a complete list of what everyone has contributed on a white board or chalkboard.

Unlock their minds by seeing!

### Blindfolded Obedience

First, remind the students that they are learning about the character trait of obedience. Then, pick two students and blindfold them. Next, put some obstacles in their pathway such as chairs, tables, toys, etc. Then, pick two more students to be the blindfolded student's guides. These guides can only give simple left or right instructions. This will be a riot to watch! However, the whole class will quickly see how important obedience is. To wrap up this lesson have everyone sit back down and compare and contrast the concept of not being able to see, to being a child who does not understand their life in the future. God has put pastors, parents, and teachers in our lives as guides. If we listen then we won't receive so many bumps in life.

### Making the connection to the Word

#### Telling or relating Bible stories to their own lives

Start by asking, "What if I gave you a list of ten things to do and you did nine out of the ten things? Do you think that is good enough?" Take a few answers from students who raise their hands. Next, ask, "What if you did nine out of the ten things and then brought me flowers, would that be good enough?" (Hold the silk flowers behind your back until you mention them, then bring them out). Well, it wasn't good enough for God in the story of King Saul. Depending on how much Bible your students know, relate or retell the story in a short, or a longer version. However here are some points you may want to make:

- First, the Lord told Saul to kill every THING! And Saul killed most of everything, but kept back what he thought was best.
- Then, Saul told Samuel he had done what the Lord asked him to do.
- When confronted, Saul blamed others for his disobedience.
- This act of disobedience is what caused God to reject Saul.
- Remember, the next time you are tempted to disobey; it could cost you more than you think.

**Note to teachers:** Again, we did not write the answers verbatim because we want you to "own" this story. We want you to teach your students what is important to them. Please do not read this entire story from the Bible to the students. You may not want to read any of it from the Bible at all, but only recap the story and make some points which are pertinent to your students. The scripture text, which is written out and included, is to make it easier for you, the teacher, to study your material. God bless your efforts as you break the bread of life for your students.

### **1Samuel 15:1-35**

1. *Samuel also said unto Saul, The LORD sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the LORD.*
2. *Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.*
3. *Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.*
4. *And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.*
5. *And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.*
6. *And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.*
7. *And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt.*
8. *And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.*
9. *But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but everything that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.*
10. *Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,*
11. *It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.*
12. *And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.*
13. *And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD.*
14. *And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?*
15. *And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.*
16. *Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.*
17. *And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?*
18. *And the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.*
19. *Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the LORD?*
20. *And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.*
21. *But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.*

22. **1 Samuel 15:22** *And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.*
- 23 *For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.*
- 24 *And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.*
- 25 *Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD.*
- 26 *And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.*
- 27 *And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his mantle, and it rent.*
- 28 *And Samuel said unto him, The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou.*
- 29 *And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for he is not a man, that he should repent.*
- 30 *Then he said, I have sinned: yet honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD thy God.*
- 31 *So Samuel turned again after Saul; and Saul worshipped the LORD.*
- 32 *Then said Samuel, Bring ye hither to me Agag the king of the Amalekites. And Agag came unto him delicately. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past.*
- 33 *And Samuel said, As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.*
- 34 *Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house to Gibeah of Saul.*
- 35 *And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and the LORD repented that he had made Saul king over Israel.*

Unlock their minds by doing!



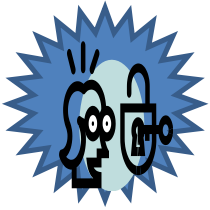
### Color Verse Recitation

This is a good activity to get your students involved, as well as memorizing a verse. First, divide your class into four groups by giving each group a color such as red, blue, green, purple. Then, show the following verse which is divided into 4 phrases. Next, assign a color group to each phrase. Finally, have the class say their phrase of the verse when their color is called. After you recite the verse a few times have the students change colors and repeat the verse again. Do this as many times as time permits.

#### 1Samuel 15:22

*And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.*

Unlock their minds by seeing!



### A man is cleansed through obedience

Before class gather at least three dirty pennies, a small bowl of salt and a small bowl of vinegar.

First, show the students the head side of a dirty penny. Next, explain that everyone is a sinner, and is dirty inside, and needs to be cleansed from their sins. However, man can only be cleansed from sin by full obedience to the plan of salvation. Then, drop the dirty penny into the salt. Explain that repentance is part of the plan of salvation. Everyone needs to repent, and truly say they are sorry for their sins, and sincerely want to change. However, repentance is not enough in its self. Next, take the penny out of the salt and show that the penny is still dirty.

Secondly, explain that a person has to do more than repent. Everyone has to be baptized in Jesus name, as well. Then, place a penny in the vinegar. Emphasize baptism is great and washes your sins away; however, a person still has more to do to obey the full plan of salvation. Take the penny out of the vinegar and show that the penny is still dirty.

Lastly, mix the vinegar and the salt together with the pennies. Then stir the pennies around in the mixture as you explain that everyone gets the opportunity to receive God's Spirit by the evidence of speaking with other tongues. When a person is obedient to all three parts of the plan of salvation he or she is clean just like these pennies. Take the pennies out of the mixture and show your students that the pennies are clean.

This may be a great opportunity to pray with your students to receive the Holy Ghost!.