

What Jesus Learned Hebrews 5:8-9

Introduction:

- I. When we think about knowledge, most of the time it is a yes/no matter:
 - a. Do you know ____? Etc.
 - b. However, there is usually a degree to knowledge, and that is clearly understood when we discuss things with others. Let me illustrate.
 - i. With this potluck we are going to have tonight, we are going to enjoy several cooked items. How does cooking take place?
 1. Simply, you put something on a stove or in an oven; right?
 2. However, what is it about the stove or oven that cooks?
 - a. It's heat! But how does heat cook?
 3. It causes a chemical change in all of the compounds of each piece of food. The heat causes changes in states of matter (as in melting cheese or boiling water). It makes ingredients dissolve together.
 - a. But WHY does heat cause these changes?
 4. And this is only one direction of knowledge (the scientific). Anyone who has spilled boiling water on themselves knows heat and cooking in an entirely different way!
 - ii. Also, having a baby is another example.
 1. I could ask the most knowledgeable doctor about how a mother feels when a child is born—emotions, physical toll, etc.
 - a. However, any lady here who is a mother would know as we say “first-hand” how a mother feels.
 - b. One could go to school for decades, yet never have the understanding that even an uneducated mother might have.
 - c. And I will never know how it feels to have a baby!
 - c. The Bible describes God in much the same way! He created this entire world, including the food and the natural laws of science which cook our food, as we discussed. He determined the amazing nature of childbirth.
- II. But there's one thing that, although he knew it, he had to learn it: obedience.
 - a. He wired the synapses of the human mind, so he above all would know how we would react to suffering and difficulty, happiness and joy. He knew what we would tend to do when it came to a choice for us to make.
 - b. But HE DID NOT FEEL THAT! That is, until Christ came to earth to live like one of us, to suffer like one of us, to choose like one of us, to die like one of us. Then he learned, through the things he suffered, what it means to obey.
- III. This is amazing to me! And it goes hand in hand with chapter 4:15
 - a. He can sympathize with our weakness!
 - b. This is one of the best ways for us to keep from being judgmental: be sympathetic!
 - i. I used to think it was so disrespectful for a child to be loud during services, or maybe silly how a family reacted to a lost loved one.
 1. I Corinthians 13:11 – When I was a child...

2. However, I have now had the opportunity(?) to try to keep young ones quiet and still for an hour of worship, and I too have lost loved ones, and I now can SYMPATHIZE with them.
 - ii. If you hear someone being judgmental about someone else, try this on them. See if you don't get the same response I usually get from people:
 1. They say, "I don't see how ___ can be so ___ all the time."
 2. You say, "Well, they have ___ going on right now."
 3. They say, "That's true," or "I didn't think about that."
- IV. So obedience was something Christ had to LEARN. But, as with anything else, what someone else learns is only useful to me if I use it!
- a. What Christ learned about obedience will only be useful to me if I learn to obey like Christ did!

Discussion: Obedience is...

- I. Submission.
 - a. Obedience is not just agreement with someone!
 - i. If someone were to run down a checklist of commands from the Bible, and each time one was read they said, "I agree." Is that obedience?
 - b. Etymology – Latin – "toward what one hears." Greek – "to be under what one hears."
 - i. Both of these imply "Decision-first, hear-second."
 1. If you have to decide what to do after being told, YOU ARE NOT OBEYING!!!
 2. That goes for obeying parents, obeying policies at school or work, and certainly for obeying God!
 - c. But what if someone submits most of the time?
 - i. Who decides when and how much you submit? YOU do! If you are picking and choosing when to submit, how can you say that your actions are done in obedience?
 1. Romans 8:7; 10:3; Ephesians 5:22
 - ii. However, if you live so that EVERYTHING you are told to do is directed by someone's commands (i.e. God's), then you are no longer deciding. It is at that point that you are obeying!
- II. Unconditional.
 - a. Whatever we choose to obey, we become its slaves.
 - i. Romans 6:16-17
 - ii. If you are going to submit to God, you must obey him no matter what your circumstances are.
 - iii. It is assumed that a slave must obey.
 1. Col 3:22; (and citizens: Heb 13:17)
- III. Obedience is Necessary!
 - a. What happens if we do not obey?
 - i. I Pet. 4:17-18; Rom. 2:8; John 3:36
 - b. On the contrary, what if we DO obey?
 - i. Heb. 5:9; Phil. 2:12-15; Rom. 6:22-23