

Jesus Does God's Will
(Self-control & Submission)

Good evening family!

(INTRO/ OPTIONAL)

This evening we'll be discussing **self-control and submission during our circus of faith.**

It's been a few years since I've been to a real circus however whenever I've attended it's always fascinating to watch trainers work with the big cats such as lion and tigers. **Particularly because these cats can weigh anywhere from 400-700 pounds** and are usually brought out in a group and together **could tear a trainer to pieces yet all of them are taught to submit which I think is amazing.** However, there are times when things don't always go according to plan.

Back in October of 2003 one of the best animal trainers Roy Horn from Siegfried and Roy (magicians that performed with wild animals) had a terrible accident when performing in Las Vegas. **The story is that there was a lady with a large hairdo sitting** near stage who distracted one of Roy's tiger. The woman reached out her hand to try and touch the tiger and the trainer **Roy stepped between and tripped and fell** to the floor. When he fell which was almost off the stage the tiger bit Roy by the neck and took him back stage like a rag doll. **Roy lost a good amount of blood and almost died** but by the grace of God survived the bite to the neck.

Some believed it was a wild rebellious attack but Siegfried and Roy thought the tiger which they had trained was only carrying Roy to safety the only way it knew and that if it had intended to kill him the tiger would have broken his neck and tossed him about. In fact it is said that Roy insist no harm be brought to the cat on his way to the hospital.

As tragic as the incident was can you imagine what the scenario would have been like if the tiger were not so well trained. **The results could have been much worse an, unleashed tiger on an open audience.** This was amazing self control on behalf of the trainer (he wasn't like kill that cat) and also amazing submission by the cat to drag his trainer back stage.

(FRAME) So what is self control & submission?

Self Control:

defined by Webster **as restraint exercised over one's own impulses, emotions, or desires**

Lack of self control is manifested in many ways displayed behind me. **We call these melt downs**

(FRAME) Prov 25:28

- **All that is good goes out.** He lies exposed to all the temptations of Satan and becomes an easy prey to that enemy; he is also liable to many troubles and vexations; (MHC)

(FRAME) Submission:

defined by Webster as “yielding to another,” or to “give in to another”

Shouldn't be confused with worldly submission where you're being aggressively coerced or abusive subjugation like a mean boss.

(FRAME) Submission:

- Is a humble and intelligent obedience to authority
- It is not being a door mat, or being the weakling of the year
- It is an inward control that expresses itself outwardly
- Spiritually speaking, is subordination to God's authority principle

(FRAME) Paul wrote in 1Cor 11:3:

But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God. (1Cor 11:3)

-SUBMISSION TO GOD IS WHERE IT ALL BEGINS.

(FRAME) - James also wrote to the church in his warning Jam 4:7:

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

(FRAME) Paul wrote also in Eph 5:15-21

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. (IE: READ OUR BIBLES, PRAY, FELLOWSHIP)

...be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Why do more people not obey the gospel today?

- It's not because of the teaching on baptism

- **Or because we don't use instruments**
- **The real problem is one of submission**
- People are unwilling to submit to God

Why do people not want to pray, study the bibles, give as they've been prospered, attend worship faithfully, or tell the lost diligently about Jesus? It has nothing to do with the weather or the economy!

- **The real problem is an unwillingness to submit to God.**
- **Yet we submit to game activities that make us spin and walk after each other.**
- **We submit to earthly bosses** because for a pay check or a bonus **Some of us sign our kids up for a sport** and teach them to submit to the coach of a team
- We all submit to traffic rules everyday and we know some of the horrific results when we don't. **le: Last week** that lost their 23 year old son due to drinking and driving.
 - My only thoughts were that I wish he would've submitted to the ways of the Lord.

Now let's talk about our family. THE CHURCH! We're a family AMEN.

Why isn't the church growing and why do we have so many problems or quarrels?

The truth is that when:

- **Men or husbands don't submit to God** they can't lead their families and we the church have problems
- **When wives don't submit** to their husbands we have problems because leads to complaints
- **When children don't submit to their parents because parents won't discipline** them at home, **we have bad influences on other children.**
- When children grow not learning how to submit they become problems in the church and sometimes even menace to societies and brothers like Kwame have to discipline them.
- **Division in the home is brought into the assembly. And we all know what** a little bit of **yeast** does to the entire batch according to Corinthians.
- **Therefore a family unwilling to submit to one another at home can't** and won't submit themselves to those that lead in the congregation.

Submission is the cure for whatever ails you spiritually.

- **It will cure a stubborn heart**
- **It can change contrary disposition**
- **Submission solves meanness (You cannot be contentious while you are being submissive)**

(FRAME) 2Chron 7:14

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Jesus was the greatest example of submission and understood what his Father's will was. In **John 4:34**

"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.

In His prayer on the night of his betrayal He prayed

I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.

Jhn 17:4 (NIV)

His greatest act of submission was when he surrendered His will to the Father and willing went to the cross.

Paul wrote about this in **Php 2:5-8 (paraphrase)**

- How our attitude should be like Christ who did not consider equality with God something to be grasped but became obedient to death on the cross.

(FRAME) While still on this earth Jesus said in Jhn 10:17-18

The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life-- only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

This passage however, does not negate the human emotions Jesus felt.

In some of his final moments on earth while in the garden Jesus wept with bitter tears, and sweat mingled with blood as he prayed

(FRAME) Matt 26:39

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

Matthew tells us Jesus prayed these words three times.

- In the ultimate act of submission, Jesus disregarded His own desires and submitted His will to the father.
- In our daily lives the same needs to be practiced where with self control we submit to the Father's will and honor it over our own
- This includes those that lead us in our assembly

(FRAME) Heb 13:17 ¹⁷ Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.