



THE CHURCH OF
**Jesus[®]
Christ**

***A Message from
the Quorum of Twelve Apostles***

**“... Behold, to obey is
better than sacrifice ...”**

1 Samuel 15:22

You Will Need:

- Copy of Quorum Message #7
- Bible
- Book of Mormon
- Pencil

- Everlasting life in the Kingdom of God
- Old Testament Story of King Saul
 - God puts obedience above service
 - God's commandment to Saul
 - Saul's lied to Samuel
- God repents
- Samuel grieves

- Samuel's response to Saul
- Saul's response – justification
- Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.

God's blessings to Saul

- First king of Israel
- New heart
- Changed man

Saul's rationalization?

- Done well to bring back the best of the flocks
- Was good to make an example of Agag

Consequences to Saul's disobedience

- Lost his position as king
- The Spirit of the Lord departed from him
- Troubled by an evil spirit for the rest of his life
- Lost his good standing with God

- Disobedience and Sacrifice
- Disobedience and Sin
- Disobedience and Conscience
- Obedience and Forgiveness

Disobedience and Sacrifice

**Doing good things may make us feel better,
but does not excuse sin.**

Disobedience and Sin

Difference between disobedience and sin?

Disobedience to God's word is sin

- Thought, word, or deed = **sins of commission**
- Not following commandments = **sin by omission**

- Rationalization and justification
 - “No big deal!”
 - “I didn't hurt anyone!”

Examples of Disobedience

Create list

Disobedience and Conscience

- Holy Ghost
 - Acts as our conscience
 - Condemns us when we sin
 - “seared” conscience
 - troubled spirit
- Present Day Society
 - Lost its conscience?
 - “Anything goes!”
 - invented moral codes

Is *The Church* be losing its conscience?

Private Personal Inventory

Only person that will see this is you!

- Be completely honest
- Write down 3-5 decisions based on a rationalization (unsound reasoning)
- Why did you make that choice?
- Decision you probably should have made
- What should you change?

Christ's Teachings on Obedience

Most personal commandment, John 14:15

Two Great Commandments, Matthew 22:36-40

Obedience and Forgiveness

Can we keep all of God's commandments?

Will we fail Him from time to time?

In Conclusion

Will you strive to be obedient to God's commandments?

Mormon 9:27

O then despise not, and wonder not, but hearken unto the words of the Lord, and ask the Father in the name of Jesus for what things soever ye shall stand in need. Doubt not, but be believing, and begin as in times of old, and come unto the Lord with all your heart, and work out your own salvation with fear and trembling before him.

This is the seventh of a series of messages to *The Church*.
For more understanding of what we believe, please visit our web
site to obtain resource and contact information:
www.thechurchofjesuschrist.com