

## Trust & Obey: *It's Not A Cliché*

### A Quick Look Back

Acts 6:8-10, 12-14, 7:1-2

### A Sneak Peek

Acts 7:51-59

### Why Stephen's Story Is So Important

### A Man Named Moses

Acts 7:20-50

### Four Lessons To Take Home

1. Don't be surprised if doing the **RIGHT THING** seems to produce the **WRONG RESULTS**.

Isaiah 55:8-9/ Job 38:1-4/ Job 42:1-6

2. Avoid **SELECTIVE OBEDIENCE** like the plague.

Romans 1:18-31/ Proverbs 4:18

3. God is at work, even when **WE CAN'T SEE IT**.

Genesis 50:20/ Romans 8:28

4. If we're going to do the work of God, we'll keep seeking to **WIN OVER** His **ENEMIES**.

Matthew 7:1-5/ Ezekiel 33:11

# Food for Thought

For the week of May 31, 2020

(Questions and Scriptures for further study & discussion)

**Discussion Questions Added** - *Food for Thought* is normally written as an aid for personal study during the periods when our Life Groups are not meeting. However, given the unique situation we currently find ourselves in with COVID-19, many Life Groups are continuing to meet in order to provide opportunities for connection. In light of that, we have adjusted the *Food for Thought* format so the questions can be used for group discussion as well as personal study and reflection.

## WHAT'S YOUR HIGHLIGHT?

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

## WHAT'S YOUR STORY

Larry talked about working hard to avoid selective obedience. Can you think of a time growing up when you practiced selective obedience with something your parents told you to do? How did your parents react and what were your consequences?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. King Saul is an example of someone who demonstrated selective obedience. In 1 Samuel 15, we read about God giving Saul a mission that he failed to carry out completely. Because of that, God sent the prophet Samuel to confront him. Read [1 Samuel 15:1-26](#) and answer the questions below.

What were some ways Saul demonstrated his half-hearted obedience and tried to justify his actions?

Can you think of any situations where you or others might be tempted to partially obey God's commands in your employment, finances, sexuality, or some other area of your life?

2. We heard this weekend that doing the work of God involves winning over His enemies, not arguing with them. This is a big challenge given the polarizing culture we live in. As followers of Jesus we are free to express our opinions, but we need to be careful to do so in a way that is respectful and loving. How could the following verses help shape how we communicate with those we disagree with?

### **James 1:26-27 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>26</sup> Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

### **James 3:9-12 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>9</sup> With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. <sup>10</sup> Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. <sup>11</sup> Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? <sup>12</sup> My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

### **Proverbs 15:1 New International Version (NIV)**

A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger.

### **Psalm 19:14 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>14</sup> May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart  
be pleasing in your sight,  
LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

## **COMING THIS SUMMER!**

Here are some ways to stay connected and continue growing this summer. Check our website for updates as more details will be added in the weeks to come. [northcoastchurch.com/events](http://northcoastchurch.com/events)

### ***Summer Study Series***

We have three incredible virtual events lined up this summer by each of our teaching pastors: Chris Brown, Larry Osborne and Christopher Hilken! More details coming soon.

### ***Summer Classes***

We are putting together a great collection of virtual classes and webinars on a variety of topics that will be offered throughout the summer, including Financial Peace University, United in Marriage, and more. More details coming soon. [northcoastchurch.com/classes](http://northcoastchurch.com/classes)

### ***Summer Connection Intro Life Groups***

New to North Coast or never been in a Life Group? Curious what being part of a Life Group is all about? Summer Connection Intro Life Groups will start July 9 and meet for three weeks. They are a great opportunity to find out what Life Groups are like with minimum commitment. More details and registration coming soon.

### ***Summer Sermon Watch Parties***

When and if the stay-at-home orders are lifted, and we are able to meet in groups of 10-12, we encourage you to gather with your friends, family, Life Group, neighbors, etc. to watch the sermon together.

## **RESOURCES & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES DURING QUARANTINE**

Check out these links, also available on our homepage: [northcoastchurch.com](http://northcoastchurch.com).

- Need some extra help or are you looking to serve in the midst of this crisis? Visit the COVID-19 Resources page for a variety of options.
- Also, check out our [Daily Doses](#) to help encourage you while dealing with the potential health, financial and relational challenges COVID 19 may cause.
- Many of the current projects and needs change rapidly. For the most up-to-date information and ways to volunteer:

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