

# Fathers Who Know God

## John 14:21-23

When He puts His love in our hearts, it results in the faith action of obeying, not out of duty, but because we love God

**Vs. 21**—refers to ongoing obedience that shows our love

**Vs. 23**—obedience starts by obeying the gospel when we become aware of our need for salvation

The Spirit enables us at that point to love God more than the world, and so we turn to Him in repentance and faith

Then the Spirit, representing the whole Godhead, makes His home in us

## What?

### The person who obeys experiences God in personal ways

Growing in love, showing obedience, knowing God—

When we show our love toward Jesus by obeying Him, the promise is that **He will show Himself to us**

We will **come to know Him more deeply and personally**

*Joshua 6:20, ESV—So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they captured the city*

Joshua learned personally that **God uses weak people by exercising His power through their obedience**

*Matthew 10:9-10, ESV—Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food*

The disciples learned personally that **God provides for our needs miraculously when we obey Him**

*Acts 9:17, ESV—So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you*

*came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit”*

Ananias learned personally that **God gives courage, opens doors of opportunity and prepares hearts**

Obeying brings us into a deeper, more personal fellowship with God, because **we experience His power, wisdom, provision, and guidance operating in us and through us**

### Big Question—What does “keep my Word” mean?

*Matthew 11:28, NIV—“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest”*

*Matthew 6:31-33, NIV—“So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well”*

*Matthew 6:14, NIV—“if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you”*

## So What?

**Only those who know God can love and obey Him**  
**Obeying God involves faith and making adjustments**  
**We will fail, but God gives second chances**

The final say—John

*I John 2:13, ESV—I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning*

## Now What?

Father’s, start a plan of reading the gospels in order to follow Jesus’ word more closely

Families, encourage your husband or father to lead you in obeying Jesus, and follow his lead