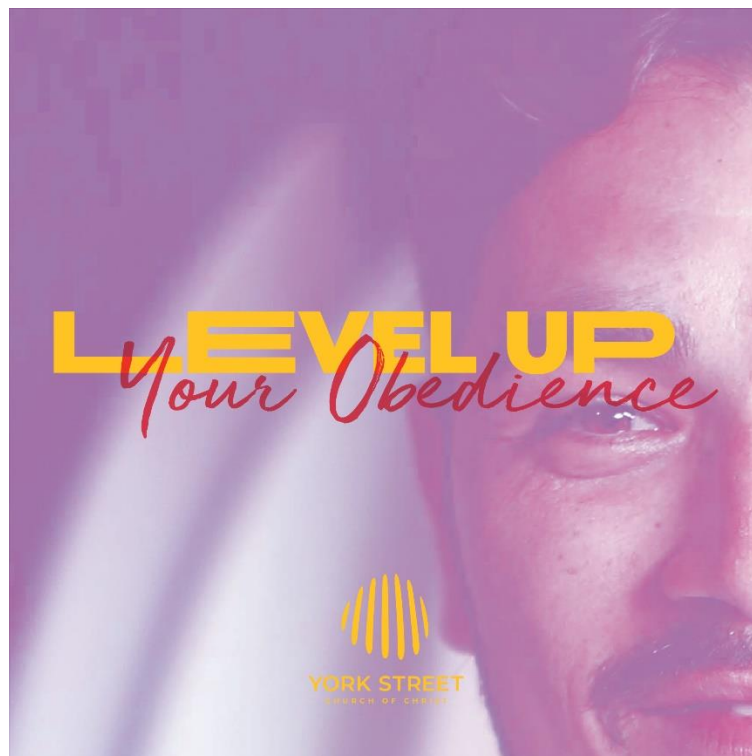


# York Street Small Groups

## Sermon Based Studies

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023

MISSION: LEVEL UP  
Level Up Your Obedience



**These studies are designed to be explored after hearing the Sunday sermon and also to be accompanied by a time of prayer/sharing.**



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## **INTO THE WORD**

**4. Andrea mentioned briefly that there are conditions for hearing God's voice. Have a look through these verses and see if you can make a list of what these might be. And are there others you can think of?**

Psalm 25:9

Hebrews 11:6

Psalm 66:18

Proverbs 3:5-6

Romans 12:1-2

Romans 1:21

Psalm 27:14

### **5. Jesus is our model for obedience.**

- Jesus lived in submission to the Father. (John 6:38)
- Jesus lived in dependence on God and sought to know the Father's will about everything. (John 8:28)
- Jesus related to the Father with absolute obedience. (John 8:29)

As an apprentice of Jesus, how are you going in the area of following Jesus as your mentor and teacher?

**6. The Bible is also full of stern warnings to those who don't obey God.** For example, Deut 5:29; Deut 11:26-28; Deut 28:45, 47; Leviticus 26; Acts 5:1-11. etc.

How do you balance the love and mercy of God, with the fear of the Lord, the holiness of God and the judgement of God?

### **GOING DEEPER/GETTING PERSONAL**

**7. What advice would you offer to someone still learning to hear and discern the voice of God?**

**8. Eugene Peterson wrote the book "A Long Obedience in the Same Direction."** That was his prescription for discipleship! To follow Jesus persistently and passionately, and that everything in the gospel is liveable.

**Share some thoughts in your group about what "a long obedience in the same direction" might mean.**

**9. Andrea asked some hard questions at the end. Is anything resonating with you? What is God stirring? Has the Holy Spirit brought His gentle conviction in any of these areas? Is there anything you would like to share with your group, or ask for accountability in?**

*Here's the questions if you need a reminder.*

1. Do you need to confess your lack of love for God, because of your disobedience to revealed truth? (This was in the context of John 14:15 saying "if you love me, keep my commands." And the fact that often we don't need more truth, but rather more obedience to what God has already shown us.)
2. Do you have an idol of comfort in your life? Or an idol of certainty?
3. Do you need to confess and repent where the fear of the Lord is not operating in your life?
4. How desperate are you to hear God speak to you? Is it something you desire? How desperate are you for God, full stop? What price are you willing to pay to hear God's voice as a way of life for yourself?

5. And finally, and this was more a comment than a question...Maybe you're hearing God speak. But you just don't think you can do what He's asking of you. You do really want to do it, but you feel you just don't you have it in you. And then Andrea read this from "I hear his whisper."

*All that's needed is simple obedience to step beyond the boundaries you have created – boundaries that set limits on what you believe I can and cannot do through you. Don't look to yourself when I ask you to do something, checking to see if you have the faith for it. Look to me – the One who is the embodiment of faith. It never has been, nor will it ever be about what you can do. It is about what I can do through you. I am the all-powerful One, alive in you.*

**10. A healthy spiritual exercise is to frequently ask ourselves the following 3 questions:**

1. Am I doing what God has directed me to do?
2. Is it in the timing that He has directed?
3. Is it being done solely for God's glory, or is there some hidden motivation for self-promotion?

And then wait on the Lord for long enough to hear the answers! You might want to spend some time doing this in your group, or take this away with you as homework.

## **PRAY**

**Spend some time in prayer together around what has been shared.**

**And then take this one away with you. As you go about your day, try offering a prayer like this one:**

Jesus, I love you! Father, I adore you! Holy Spirit, I rely on you! Lord Jesus, I seek to live as your apprentice in all that I do today. My life is your school for teaching me. I relinquish my agenda for this day and I submit myself to you and your kingdom purposes. In all situations today I pray, "Your will, Your way, Your time."

(This is the beginning of the Apprentice Prayer from the book *Your Best Life in Jesus' Easy Yoke*).

