

## A Lifestyle That Gives

### Obedience Is The Key

1. Obedience is the key in the area of **giving** and any other area of life: in our **marriage**, our **health**, our **spiritual** walk.
  - If you want **above and beyond**, and live a **miraculous** life, obedience is the key.

#### John 2:1-5

- Remember verse 5, "Whatever **Jesus** says to you, do it."

#### John 2:6-10

Of this story, here is my question:

- Why did Mary go to Jesus when they ran out of wine?

Verse 4 – Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me?

Jesus says: My hour has **not yet** come.

2. Mary must have known Jesus had an **ability** to do something about it.

“Whatever He says to you, do it.”

- This is the phrase that has been going over and over in my spirit.

As a pastor, I am only asking you this: Whatever **God** says to you, do it.

This is what jumps out at me.

Mary says: **whatever**

3. If He says to do it, and you want to see above and beyond, **do** it.

I see 3 things about obedience in the Bible.

A. Obedience can be **measured**.

### **John 2:7a**

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, “Fill the waterpots with water.”...

### **John 2:7b**

<sup>7</sup> ...And they filled them up to the brim.

Every **drop** of water they put in the pots became Heaven's wine.

4. You determine the **measure** of what God blesses you with.

### **Luke 6:38**

- Whatever **measure** you give with is what you will get back.
- By my obedience, **I determine** what comes back.

5. They put in something **natural** and Jesus turned it into the **supernatural**.

In your obedience:

- If you give a **little**, you'll receive **little**.
- If you give over and above, you receive **over and above**.

That is the **kingdom** principle.

Second thing about obedience:

B. Obedience transforms **dead** religion into **exciting** faith.

- These pots at the wedding were **ceremonial** washing pots for purification.
- The pots had no spiritual **significance**.

Let me say it this way: There are many believers who are still so excited about Jesus and are full of **life**, but there are some believers who are Christian **fossils** – steeped in religion.

- The difference is those full of life are living in **obedience**.

Here is the life of **excitement**: whatever He says, do it.

Obedience transforms **dead** religion into **exciting** faith.

The third thing:

C. Obedience is the key to our heart's **desires**.

This was Jesus **first** public sign:

6. Turning water into wine was simply blessing a family at their children's wedding with **refreshments**.

This tells me God cares about the things you care about no matter how **small** it is.

## Psalm 37:4

Here is the culture of the kingdom of God:

- If you **obey** God, building **His** kingdom, He will build your **house**.

Here are 2 reasons why God will bless you more than you bless yourself:

- Because God has **more** than you do.
- He loves you **more** than you love yourself.

## John 3:16

## Matthew 6:33

## Proverbs 10:22

- There are a lot of people who have **a lot** of things, but they live in **sorrow**.
7. Jesus is sitting at the table of your desires **waiting** for you to obey Him and do whatever He says.

## 3 John 2

A prosperous soul is an **obedient** soul.

Jesus was **not** telling Mary, no.

- He was saying: they are not **recognizing** Me yet – they're not **including** Me.

She turned to the servants: Do whatever **He** says.

When you give: Do what **He** says.