

We're In This Together (Week 2)

7.19.26

Key Outcomes

The service covered two interconnected teachings: (1) a message on obedience vs. disobedience drawn from Deuteronomy 28, and (2) a foundational teaching on why soul renewal must precede operating in spiritual gifts. The pastor emphasized that undeveloped character in the "soul realm" (mind, will, emotions) will corrupt or misuse spiritual giftings, using David and Jesus as examples of anointing requiring years of character development before full manifestation.

Decisions Made

- Spiritual gifts teaching will **not** advance until the congregation grasps soul renewal and fruit of the Spirit as prerequisites. 1
- Church will **not** rush ordination; character development must be demonstrated first. 2
- A guest speaker (highlighted by the Lord) is assigned to teach **next week**; pastor will resume the series the following week. 3

Core Teaching: Obedience & Disobedience

- **Deuteronomy 28:1–7** — Obedience brings blessings in every area: city, country, children, crops, finances. 4
- **Deuteronomy 28:15–25** — Disobedience brings curses, lack, sickness, and destruction. 5
- Lack of finances or resources should prompt self-examination: *"Are you obeying the Lord in all areas?"* 6
- **Numbers 20** — Moses struck the rock instead of speaking to it; despite the miracle working, God barred him from the Promised Land due to disobedience. 7
- Breaking the church fast = directly disobeying God, not just leadership. 8

Core Teaching: Soul Renewal Before Gifting

- The **soul** (mind, will, emotions) is the tiebreaker between flesh and spirit — whichever realm renews it will be served. 9
- An unrenewed soul causes giftings to become self-serving: seeking validation, people-pleasing (called **idolatry**), and building personal monuments around gifts. 10 11
- **Fruit of the Spirit** (Galatians 5:22–23) takes time to grow — it cannot be switched on like a decision; it is birthed through the Spirit over time. 12
- **Romans 5:3** — Afflictions → Endurance → Proven Character → Hope; character development is a time-bound process. 13
- Discouragement originates in the soul realm; more Word = less discouragement. 14

Key Illustrations

- **David** — Anointed as a teenager (1 Samuel 16:13), but did not become king over all Israel until age 30 (2 Samuel 5:4); decades of character development between anointing and full manifestation. 15
- **Jesus** — Knew his purpose at 12 (Luke), yet waited until 30 to begin public ministry; Numbers 4:3/4:47 required Levites to be 30 for full priestly service; the silent years built cultural trust and identification with ordinary people. 16 17
- **Beyoncé** cited as example of gifting operating without godly soul renewal — gifts work regardless, but without renewal they serve self. 18

Announcements

- Church is actively pursuing a **building**; contract expected by end of year. 19
- A **fundraising campaign** will be announced; goal is several hundred thousand dollars. 20
- **Hubs** (small groups) are active this week — check the app. 21
- Giving encouraged: tithe (10%) minimum; app and website available for contributions. 21
- **Raymond's birthday** celebrated during service.

Action Items

- **Congregation:** Repent of known disobedience before prayer; do not approach God while walking in disobedience. 22
- **Disciplers:** Text disciples not present on Zoom and send them the link. 23
- **Members:** Spread the word about the building campaign online. 21
- **Pastor:** Inform the highlighted speaker they are teaching next week. 3

Open Questions

- Final speaker assignment for next week not yet confirmed (pastor noted forgetting to tell them). 3
- Building contract status and opposition details to be reported back next Sunday. 19