

date: 3.3.13

Walking Dusty...

teacher: Dan Crist

During one of my kids' basketball practices, I sat in a church lounge. Across from me was another mom who picked up a book that was sitting on an end table. After she read the book cover, she blurted out, "I'd rather gossip" and put the book down.

Last night I learned that my son had not been turning in his language homework - again. It's frustrating because he's capable of doing very well in this class, but because of his lack of effort he is failing. It's not the teacher's fault. He didn't want to be in the class, so he's not motivated to be a good student.

There is sin in both of these examples. Sure, the first is more blatant. I probably wouldn't boldly tell God that I won't do something. But casually ignoring what I know is right still results in disobedience. In the end, is there really a difference?

Scripture lists many commands for us as believers. Will I obey when God tells me to love my enemies? Or will I casually forget because I don't feel like loving them? When I'm waiting for my test results, will I trust that God is good all the time? Or will I fix my mind on negative thoughts and what ifs? When I'm mad at my husband, will I seek to still be kind? Or will I harbor a grudge that will grow into bitterness?

On my own, I can't respond properly all the time; but I believe that when we acknowledge our needs to our Creator, He will, through the power of the Holy Spirit IN us, help us to obey. God knows we can't do it on our own, but He loves it when our hearts are turned to Him and we seek His help.

Questions to Consider:

The Greatest Commandment is "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37, 39) Obeying God is loving God. Do my actions match my words?

Over the last few weeks, Dan and Kayla have been blessed by Mosaic families. Dan encouraged Mosaic to continue to walk closely to people and "be the church." This week, where is God calling me to serve? Who is He calling me to love? Am I obeying?

Dan listed dozens of verses and commands for us to follow. Are we reading the Bible and asking God to help us obey His commands? Do we want to obey?

On p. 79 of *Radical Together*, Platt wonders if the American church is okay with people not hearing the Gospel. He went on to say that sometimes our building and programs take precedence over going and making disciples. Dan asked if we desire to see the end? Do we want to see Jesus?

Additional verses: *Matthew 24:14, John 14:15, 21, 23, Romans 8:28-29, Colossians 1:27, 2 John 5 – 6*