

The Parable Of The Two Sons

Storyteller #10

Tim Gill - June 14, 2015

“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’²⁹ ‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.³⁰ Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.³¹ ‘Which of the two did what his father wanted?’ ‘The first,’ they answered. Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you.³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

Matthew 21:28-32 (NIV)

- This parable is about **obedience**.

Why is my obedience so important to God?

1. My obedience confirms what I believe. (v.31, 32)

Which of the two did what his father wanted? “The first,” they answered. **(v.31)**

*Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you.³² For John came to you to show **you** the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him. **(v.32)***

*...I will show you my faith by the things I do. **James 2:18 (ICB)***

2. My obedience acknowledges God’s authority. (v.28, 31)

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?” **Matthew 21:23 (NIV)**

There was a man who had two sons... (v.28)

Which of the two did what his father wanted? (v.31)

Why do you keep calling me ‘Lord, Lord,’ but don’t do what I tell you? **Luke 6:46 (Phillips)**

3. My obedience determines my future. (v.31-32)

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Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.

Matthew 21:43 (NIV)

Not everyone who calls me Lord will enter God’s kingdom. The only people who will enter are those who do what my Father in heaven wants. **Matthew 7:21 (ERV)**

*As soon as you command, I do what you say. **Psalms 119:60 (CEV)***