

January 31, 2016

Welcome: We would like to welcome you here today for our worship service with our focus on following Jesus with our theme today “Obedience Opens the Doors to God’s Plan. 1 Samuel 16:1-23. Our series is called Love Producing Obedience.

Sermon Outline

1. **Guard your heart.** Why is this so important? *Proverbs 4:23 – Guard your heart above all else for it determines the course of your life.* What is this verse saying to you?

2. We can guard our heart by repentance, prayer, worship, and being in the word. How does each of these elements guard your heart?

3. **God opens doors for those who follow him with all their heart.** What does this mean and how has this happened in your life?

4. **Sin cannot be covered up, but must be repented of.** *If we say we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and refusing to accept the truth. 1 John 1:8.* What happens when we don’t have sincere repentance? How does this affect God’s plan for our life? How does this affect my worship and my life in general?

5. **Concluding verses: 1 Peter 1:19-21** *He paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. 20 God chose him for this purpose long before the world began, but now in these final days, he was sent to the earth for all to see. And he did this for you. 21 Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And because God raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory, your faith and hope can be placed confidently in God.* What are these verses saying to you?

6. **Sermon mediation.** Think about the last three messages including the one today as what is the Lord telling us.
 - **Message - My Decisions Impact others.** Key thought – My relationship with the Lord is the most important ingredient in making decisions that have the greatest impact on the Kingdom of God.
 - **Message – Living the Transformed Life.** Key thought - *Colossians 1:9-10 So we have continued praying for you ever since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you a complete understanding of what he wants to do in your lives, and we ask him to make you wise with spiritual wisdom. 10 Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and you will continually do good, kind things for others. All the while, you will learn to know God better and better. Colossians 3:1 Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven where Christ sits at God’s right hand in the place of honor and power.*
 - **Message – Obedience Opens the Doors to God’s Plan.**
