

### **Blessings for the Obedient 3 : To Obey is Better than Sacrifice**

**Main Bible Verse:**

(1 Samuel 15:22-23) But Samuel replied: “Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifice as much as in obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. 23 For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king.”

**Prayers of Blessing to the New Friends:**

Selena Wang, Cindy Su, Mandy Du, Xian-Zhen Shen, Emily Chen, Qi-Qi Li

**List of Healing Prayers Request:**

Anne Wang, JT Foo, Winnie Liang, Jian-Hua Wu, Shu-Hui Wang, Ying-An Chen, Mei-Lin Ke, Hui-Xin Lai, Qing-De Ren, Shu-Hui Ye, Cai-Wen Wang, He-Ping Chen, Ping-Yang Li, Shu-Hui Liu, Jia-Yi Ren, Betty Shen, Rosa Huang, Ya-Ping Su, Mandy Zhang, Carter, Nian-Jiao Chen, Joy Chang, Christine Zhang, Zhu-Xian Chen, Feng-Lun Bai, Xue-Hui Bai, Xiu-Lan Wu, Chu-Xian Chen, Jian-Ping Ren, Li-Xin Liu, Du-Hua Wang, Xiao-Ning Xie, Pin-Tong Meng, Suan-You Hu, Xiu-Ling Chen, Zhen-Gang Ku, Jennifer Li, Paul Wong, Hui Wang, Yi-Hang Huang, Yun Huang

**Prayers for the Kingdom Commission:**

- Monthly Church Fasting and Prayer will be held every last Saturday after Morning Prayer. We encourage brothers and sisters to attend the Morning Prayer at 8:30 and join us for the Fasting and Prayer afterwards.  
Date of Fasting and Prayer in June: 06/27.

**Summary:**

**John 14:21 | Genesis 19:22**

- (John 14:21) Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”
- No matter what we are doing, we must have the command from God.
  - When God commands us to do something and we obey it, we are loving Jesus.
- We must inquire of God in everything we do and seek His command for us.
  - When we have the word and act upon the word, God will bless us in every aspect of our life.
- The key to our success is obeying the word of God.
  - When we follow God’s word, our thoughts and our mind are aligned with God.
- When we have the word but disobey, we are blocking the word of God, His miracles, and His direction for us.
- But flee there quickly, because I cannot do anything until you reach it.” (That is why the town was called Zoar.)
  - The angels told Lot to flee to Zoar.
  - Lot first had to follow the instruction before the angels could help him.
- When we are obedient and follow God’s word and act upon it, we will be blessed.

**1 Samuel 15:7-26 | 1 Samuel 16:14 | John 14:15-17**

- God commanded Saul to completely wipe out the Amalekites.
  - Saul obeyed initially; however, he left the king of the Amalekites and plundered the livestock.

- (1 Samuel 15:22-23) But Samuel replied: “Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifice as much as in obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. 23 For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king.”
- Saul rebelled against God and also lied.
  - After this God rejected him as king.
- In the following years God did not speak to him.
- (1 Samuel 16:14) Now the Spirit of the Lord had departed from Saul, and an evil[a] spirit from the Lord tormented him.
  - After Saul deliberately disobeyed and lied about it, the Spirit of the Lord left Saul.
- Rebellion is following whatever we want to do.
  - When we follow our own thoughts and our own mind, we are opening a door for the devil to come in.
- Physical disobedience is easy for us to see; however, rebellion is from our heart.
- The pharisees did not sin physically.
  - They worshipped, praised, and spoke of the word of God.
  - However, they did not receive Jesus.
- We must not become Christians that are only talk and do not act out the word of God and bear fruit.
- We must not hold bitterness in our heart and learn to forgive.
- Rebellion prevents us from hearing the word of God.
  - For 40 years, God did not speak to Saul.
  - For 13 years, God did not speak to Abraham.
    - Abraham took things into his own hands and had a son with Hagar.
- It is good to offer sacrifices to the Lord.
  - (Matthew 16:24) Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.
  - We must deny ourselves, take up the cross, and follow Jesus.
- However, Obedience is greater than sacrifice.
- Obedience and sacrifice often work together.
  - No matter the situation we are in, we must always obey the Lord.
- Serving the Lord is not a replacement for obeying the Lord.
  - We cannot replace obedience with sacrifice.
  - We cannot trade with God saying “we will serve more” in exchange for not doing something that God wants us to do.
- Our sacrifice is only pleasing to God when we sacrifice with an obedient heart.
- The word from God is our daily Ramah.
  - We should not only worship and praise at church, but act upon the word of God daily.
  - Our lives at church should match our daily lives.
- When we deliberately disobey the Lord, we will not be able to be successful and bear fruit.
- God wants to give us the best; however, we must first obey Him.

- We must daily ask for the word of God.
  - When we receive the word of God and the instruction from God, we must obey.
  - When we obey, we will receive abundant blessings.
- (John 14:15-17) 15 “If you love me, keep my commands. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.
- The Holy Spirit will give us strength and help us to obey the word of God.
- (Matthew 16:24-28) 24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done. 28 “Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”
- It is very important that we deny ourselves, take up the cross, and follow Jesus if we want to become his disciples.
  - When we follow Jesus, we have the hope of rapture as well as the kingdom of heaven in our heart.
- When we have the kingdom of heaven in our heart, we will live a life of abundance.
  - When we have this kingdom in us, we will be able to align ourselves with Jesus.
- Taking up the cross means following Jesus’ command no matter what other people say or do and regardless of our environment.
  - We cannot do this on our own, but the Holy Spirit will empower us and help us to take up our cross.
- When we have the power of the Holy Spirit, we will be able to overcome.
  - The Holy Spirit will teach us all things and remind us when we are sinning.
  - (John 14:26) But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.
- When we have the Holy Spirit in us, we will see God guide us step by step.
- (Psalms 119:17-19) <sup>17</sup>Be good to your servant while I live, that I may obey your word <sup>18</sup>Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law. <sup>19</sup>I am a stranger on earth; do not hide your commands from me.
- Abraham knew that he was a stranger on earth and lived a life obedient to God.
  - God called Abraham out of his homeland.
    - Though Abraham did not know where he was going, he followed God and had faith.
- When we have the Holy Spirit to lead us and guide us, our eyes will be opened.
- Only through God can we do all things.
- When we know that we are only a stranger on earth, we will love God more and draw closer to the Lord.
- We must remember that God loves us and will guide us and lead us into victory.
- Our purpose in life should be to glorify God.
  - Daily when we wake up, we must have a thankful heart because we have a commission from God.
  - Because we have this commission from God, our lives will be brighter.
- When we love Jesus more, we will obey all of Jesus’ commands.
  - When we disobey God, we must always remember to repent and return.

# Holy Spirit We Welcome You

Lyrics & Music:  
Chris Bowater

Shènglíng wǒmen zhēn huānyíng ní  
Shènglíng wǒmen zhēn huānyíng ní

Chorus

Qiú ní shènghuǒ fénsāo wǒmen  
Rújīn wǒmen fàngxià shìshàng suǒ ài  
Jǔ shuāng shǒu shēn shēn kěmù ní  
Qīn'ài shènglíng wǒmen huānyíng  
Qīn'ài shènglíng huānyíng ní lái

中譯：周巽光

Holy Spirit God

Lyrics & Music by:  
Robert and Lea Sutanto

Sheng ling qing ni lai  
Chong man zai zhe di  
Wo ke wang geng ren shi ni  
Geng shen di jing li

Sheng ling qing ni lai  
Gai bian wo xin yi  
Kai wo yan jing kai wo er  
Rang wo geng duo ren shi ni

Chorus

Wo hu qiu sheng jie sheng jie  
Sheng jie gui wo zhu  
Wo zun chong ni rong yao rong yao  
Rong yao gui wo zhu

Holy Spirit God

Lyrics & Music by:  
Robert and Lea Sutanto

Holy Spirit God

Come and fill this place  
For I long to now You More  
In a deeper way

Holy Spirit God

Come and change my heart  
Open my eyes, open my ears  
I want to know You more

Chorus

And I cry holy, holy  
Holy is the Lord  
I exalt Your glory, glory  
Glory to the Lord

Yēsū nǐ shì wànmín de jiùshú  
shí jià nénglì shì wǒmen de pànwàng  
kōng fén zhèngmíng  
nǐ yǐ shèngguò sǐwáng  
yǒngyuǎn zhǎngquán yǒngyuǎn déshèng

Chorus

Jìng bài yēsū

quán de dōu yáng shēng zànměi yēsū  
xiàng shìjiè xuāngào wéi yǒu nǐ shì zhǔ  
lièguó dū jiāng róngyào guī gěi nǐ  
jìng bài yēsū

quán de dōu yáng shēng zànměi yēsū  
nénglì dōu guī nǐ quánbǐng dōu guī nǐ  
wéi yǒu nǐ pèi dé suǒyǒu de róngyào

Bridge

Yēsū yēsū

yīn nǐ de míng bìngtòng dé yīzhì

yēsū yēsū

yīn nǐ de míng suǒliàn dōu duàn kāi

yēsū yēsū yēsū yēsū

wàn xī guìbài wàn kǒu dōu chéngrèn

yēsū yēsū yēsū yēsū

quán dì hūhǎn wǒmen yào yēsū

Yuànzǔ de ēnhuì cí'ài yǔ nǐ tóng zài  
yuànzǔ de líng shí shí wéirào  
ēndiǎn jiàngxià cì fú yǔ nǐ  
píng'ān xǐlè tiāntiān chōngmǎn nǐ  
ēndiǎn jiàngxià cì fú yǔ nǐ  
píng'ān xǐlè tiāntiān chōngmǎn nǐ

Chorus

Cì fú yǔ nǐ cì fú yǔ nǐ  
píng'ān xǐlè tiāntiān chōngmǎn nǐ  
cì fú yǔ nǐ cì fú yǔ nǐ  
píng'ān xǐlè tiāntiān chōngmǎn nǐ

# Holy Spirit We Welcome You

Lyrics & Music:  
Chris Bowater

Holy Spirit, we welcome You

Holy Spirit, we welcome You

Chorus

Move amongst us with holy fire  
As we lay aside all earthly desire

Hands reach and hearts aspire

Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, we welcome You

Holy Spirit God

Lyrics & Music by:  
Robert and Lea Sutanto

Holy Spirit God

Come and fill this place  
For I long to now You More  
In a deeper way

Holy Spirit God

Come and change my heart  
Open my eyes, open my ears  
I want to know You more

Chorus

And I cry holy, holy  
Holy is the Lord  
I exalt Your glory, glory  
Glory to the Lord

Jesus, You're the savior of the world  
The power of the cross will be our strength  
You have risen  
You have conquered the grave  
Now forever, forever You will reign

Chorus

We worship You  
Oh Jesus, we will bring praise to You  
Let the earth cry out  
Let the nations shout  
Glory to the one and only King  
We worship You  
Oh Jesus, we will bring praise to You  
Power unto You. Honor unto You.  
You alone deserve all glory and praise

Bridge

Jesus, Jesus. Jesus,  
Your name can heal every heart  
Jesus, Jesus. Jesus,  
Your name can break every chain  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus  
All will bow down  
all tongues will confess  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus  
All the earth shouts  
we need You, Jesus

May Father's love and His grace be with you

May Holy Spirit cover you

Grace upon grace, granted to you

May His peace and joy flow over you

Grace upon grace, granted to you

May His peace and joy flow over you

Chorus

Grace upon grace, granted to you

May His peace and joy flow over you

Grace upon grace, granted to you

May His peace and joy flow over you