

## SERMON NOTES | Deut. 10:12-13 & John 15:9-11 (NIV)

Written by Rev. Andrew Adair

This is the final message in our Summer Sermon Series, “Reformed and Reforming.” I’ve really enjoyed this series as we’ve explored the ECO Essential Theological Tenets of ECO. Our focus today is obedience, and I want to start by reframing this essential biblical truth, because for many of us, when we hear the word “obedience,” we immediately think of doing what we’re told, following rules, and punitive actions if we don’t! It’s no surprise we think that way, because that IS the primary way obedience is understood today. But, when we take this definition of obedience and apply it our life with God, we miss what biblical obedience is all about. The Triune God invites us into an intimate relationship with himself through his son, Jesus Christ. As we’re saved by grace through faith and become part of God’s new creation, we respond to God’s grace by living in accordance with God’s plans and purposes. Obedience is our response to this amazing God; it’s an essential aspect of our participation in the new creation God is bringing about. Obedience is so much more than just following rules, and it’s definitely not just blindly doing what some distant deity tells us to do. The obedience God calls us to is a way of life – a way of life marked by loving God, hearing God and doing what God asks of us.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12 – 13 and John 15:9 – 11 are two important scripture passages related to obedience in our life with God. As you read them, what stands out to you? What observations do you have?
2. In his book *Practicing the Way: Be with Jesus, Become Like Him, Do As He Did*, John Mark Comer discusses the profound importance of habits and what our habits reveal about us. He writes: “...show me a person’s habits, and I will show you what they are truly most passionate about, most dedicated to, most willing to suffer for, and most in love with. And I will show you who they will become.” (*Practicing the Way*, p. 44)  
If someone observed your daily habits, what would they conclude you are “most passionate about, most dedicated to, most willing to suffer for, and most in love with?” Based on your habits, what kind of person would they conclude you are becoming?
3. One of the core ways we grow in our relationship with God is spending intentional time each day alone with God ... studying scripture, praying, journaling, being still, and more. How consistent are you in terms of spending time alone with God each day? If you haven’t been consistent recently, what changes could you make so this can happen more regularly? If you have been consistent, are there any changes you sense the Holy Spirit inviting you to consider in terms of your times alone with God?
4. In terms of the essential role of the Holy Spirit in our transformation, the ECO Essential Tenet Statement says, “Progress in holiness is an expected response of gratitude to the grace of God, which is initiated, sustained, and fulfilled by the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit...” In this arena of “progress in holiness” or we could say growing in obedience, how have you experienced the work of the Holy Spirit in your life?
5. James 1:22 says, “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” A corollary to that is the more we actually do what we believe God is asking us to do, the better we get at doing it. As we do this, we create space for the Holy Spirit to develop and strengthen our obedience muscles. Generosity is one of the MDPC core values. How might God be calling you to strengthen your generosity muscles?
6. Jesus makes it clear God is just as interested in what’s going on in our hearts as he is in our behavior. In regard to loving our enemies, Jesus says, “You’re familiar with the old written law, ‘Love your friend,’ and its unwritten companion, ‘Hate your enemy.’ I’m challenging that. I’m telling you to love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the supple moves of prayer, for then you are working out of your true selves, your God-created selves” (Matthew 5:43 ff. The Message). How might God be calling you to love those you might consider “enemies” (e.g., those who have different political opinions than you do, those who have hurt you, those who have betrayed you, etc.)? What might that look like?
7. In Acts 1:8 Jesus makes it clear he intends for us to be his witnesses in the world through the power of the Holy Spirit. Growing in obedience, growing in our ability to hear and do what God asks of us, includes growing in our ability to be Christ’s witnesses? How might God be calling you to live this out in your family, in your neighborhood, at your place of work, etc.?

Sun, Aug 9, 2026



Online Giving [give.mdpc.org](https://give.mdpc.org)



All Events [events.mdpc.org](https://events.mdpc.org)

### Dad’s Pickleball Social

Sat, Aug 22 | 8-11:30am | MDPC Courts

Kick off the fall with a relaxed morning of pickleball, connection, and fun. This low-key hangout is a great chance to meet other dads in a similar stage of life, enjoy some friendly games, and start building new friendships: [social.mdpc.org](https://social.mdpc.org)

### Alpha Launch Night

Tue, Sep 8 | 6:30-9pm

At Alpha Launch, you’ll eat great food and watch an episode in the Alpha series on a question of faith. Everyone’s welcome, no matter your background or beliefs. The evening and childcare are free, so come see if it’s for you! More info and RSVP: [alphalaunch.mdpc.org](https://alphalaunch.mdpc.org)

### Ladies Bingo Night

Thu, Sep 10 | 5:30-8:30pm | MDPC

Get ready for a night of fun, laughter, and connection with women of all ages at MDPC! Unwind, meet new friends, and enjoy 10 exciting rounds of bingo—complete with great prizes and a grand prize finale: [bingo.mdpc.org](https://bingo.mdpc.org)

### MomCo: Good Company

Every other Thu, Sep 10-Apr 29 | 9:30-11:30am

Calling all moms looking for community, encouragement, and a sense of belonging! Whether you’re navigating diapers, school drop-offs, or somewhere in between, you’ll find women who understand. Free childcare. Sign up: [momco.mdpc.org](https://momco.mdpc.org)

### The Family Impact Project

Sat, Sep 12 | Times vary

Looking for a meaningful way to serve alongside your family? Join us for a one-day opportunity to bless members of our church and community

through simple acts of service. No special skills are required—just a willing heart and a desire to serve! More info and registration: [FIP.mdpc.org](https://fip.mdpc.org)

### Men’s Life: Finding Your True Identity

Tue, Sep 15-Nov 17 | 6:30-7:45am

In Men’s Life 2026, we’ll discover who you already are in Christ and learn to live from the identity God has given you—not the one the world tries to assign. Learn more and register: [ml.mdpc.org](https://ml.mdpc.org)

### Youth Confirmation Retreat/Classes

Sundays, Sep 20-Nov 8 | 9:45am | MS Room

Confirmation is for rising students in grades 9-12 who are prepared to declare their faith in Jesus and join MDPC as members. The confirmation retreat is Sep 11-13 at Camp Cho-Yeh. Learn more and register: [confirmation.mdpc.org](https://confirmation.mdpc.org)

### Make an IMPACT!

Training: Sun, Sep 20 | 12:30pm

Games. Conversation. Friendship. That’s all it takes to make a difference! Spend just 30 minutes each week with a child who would benefit from another caring adult in their life: [impact.mdpc.org](https://impact.mdpc.org)

### Word and Worship

Weekly, Sep 2026-Feb 2027

Grow deeper in your faith through the book of Daniel. It contains some of the stories we are most familiar with, but also many others that are often neglected - this study will cover all of them! Many day and time options for groups. Learn more and register: [wandw.mdpc.org](https://wandw.mdpc.org)

### Save the Date! YA Fall Retreat

Fri, Oct 2 at 4pm-Sun, Oct 4 at 1pm

Join other young adults: [yaevents.mdpc.org](https://yaevents.mdpc.org)

ECO THEOLOGY CONFERENCE | SEP 21-23, 2026 | MDPC

Light in the  
DARKNESS  
FAITHFUL RESPONSES TO HERESY

What if some of Christianity’s oldest errors are still shaping our thinking today? Pastors, students, and all who are theologically curious are invited to join us for engaging presentations connecting the past with the present.



[theologyconference.mdpc.org](https://theologyconference.mdpc.org)

As you enter worship, we kindly ask that you silence your cell phones.



8:30 BLENDED SERVICE

GATHERING

|                        |                                |                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Call to Worship        |                                | Riley McDaniel |
| *Songs of Praise       | Everlasting God   Cornerstone  |                |
| Confession & Assurance |                                | Rachel Poysky  |
| Song of Response       | Amazing Grace                  |                |
| Prayer                 |                                | Rachel Poysky  |
| Worship Songs          | Gratitude   Great Are You Lord |                |

HEARING THE WORD

|         |                                                                          |              |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Message | R&R: Reformed and Reforming<br>Deuteronomy 10:12-13 & John 15:9-11 (NIV) | Andrew Adair |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|

RESPONDING

|                  |                                |  |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Song of Response | I Have Decided to Follow Jesus |  |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--|

SENDING

|              |  |              |
|--------------|--|--------------|
| *Benediction |  | Andrew Adair |
|--------------|--|--------------|

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9:45 CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

GATHERING

|                        |                                |                   |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Call to Worship        |                                | Michael Middleton |
| *Songs of Praise       | Praise   Cornerstone           |                   |
| Confession & Assurance |                                | Laurien Hook      |
| Song of Response       | Amazing Grace                  |                   |
| Welcome                |                                | Riley McDaniel    |
| Worship Songs          | Gratitude   Great Are You Lord |                   |

HEARING THE WORD

|         |                                                                          |              |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Message | R&R: Reformed and Reforming<br>Deuteronomy 10:12-13 & John 15:9-11 (NIV) | Andrew Adair |
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RESPONDING

|                  |                                |  |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Song of Response | I Have Decided to Follow Jesus |  |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--|

SENDING

|              |  |              |
|--------------|--|--------------|
| *Benediction |  | Andrew Adair |
|--------------|--|--------------|

Blended and Contemporary Worship Leaders  
MDPC Worship Team: Coppelia Acevedo, Uvaldo Callejas, David Cavazos, Asher Pudlo, Will Story  
Michael Middleton, Generational Worship Director

11:15 TRADITIONAL SERVICE

GATHERING

|                                     |                                                     |                                                         |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Preludes                            | Hymn to the Fallen<br>Nimrod from Enigma Variations | John Williams (b. 1932)<br>Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934) |
| Call to Worship                     |                                                     | Luke Funderburk                                         |
| Choral Introit                      | From All that Dwell Below the Skies                 | Gordon Young (1919-1998)                                |
| *Hymn of Praise                     | God of Grace and God of Glory   Vs. 1, 2, 4         | #420   CWM RHONDDA                                      |
| *Confession and Assurance of Pardon |                                                     | Rachel Poysky                                           |
| *Affirmation of Faith from Romans 8 |                                                     |                                                         |
| Baptism                             | Wren Smith, daughter of Roy and Hunter Smith        | Rachel Poysky                                           |
| *Congregational Response            | Dear Lord and Father of Mankind   Vs. 1, 2          | #345   REST                                             |

HEARING THE WORD

|                       |                                                                          |                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Anthem of Preparation | Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated                                   | Mark Hayes (b. 1953) |
| Message               | R&R: Reformed and Reforming<br>Deuteronomy 10:12-13 & John 15:9-11 (NIV) | Andrew Adair         |

RESPONDING

|                   |                                     |                           |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| *Hymn of Response | O Jesus, I Have Promised   Vs. 1, 4 | #388   ANGEL'S STORY      |
| Prayer            |                                     | Rachel Poysky             |
| Anthem            | If Ye Love Me                       | Thomas Tallis (1505-1585) |

SENDING

|              |                                          |                       |
|--------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| *Doxology    | Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow | #592   OLD 100TH      |
| *Benediction |                                          | Andrew Adair          |
| Postlude     | Prelude from the First Partita           | J.S. Bach (1685-1750) |

Traditional Worship Leaders  
Choral Ensemble | Kathryn White, organist  
Charles Hausmann, Traditional Worship Director

\* Please stand, if comfortable.

HAPPENING AROUND MDPC

**Food Service Update**

We're excited to announce Kimberly Wright as MDPC's new Catering and Hospitality Manager! Under Kimberly's leadership, we've moved to a new model, sourcing food from various Houston vendors. Join us for weekday lunch at MDPC Café to experience the updates! More info: [cafe.mdpc.org](http://cafe.mdpc.org)

**Officer Nominations**

We need your help identifying members whose gifts may be calling them into leadership at MDPC. Who stands out as a future Elder or Deacon? Submit nominations using the simple form at [nominate.mdpc.org](http://nominate.mdpc.org).

**Join Our Team!**

Children's Ministries needs teens and adults to help with Sunday School! Training and materials are provided. For more information, please email Keri Mosk: [kmosk@mdpc.org](mailto:kmosk@mdpc.org)

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|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Financial Update</b> as of Aug 2, 2026 | <b>Births and Deaths</b>                                                         |
| 2026 Annual Budget                        | Harold Metts passed away July 22.                                                |
| Actual Income to Date                     | Marilyn Brown passed away July 30.                                               |
| Needed to Meet 2026 Budget                | Carolyn Nelson passed away August 1.                                             |
|                                           | More information at <a href="http://memorials.mdpc.org">memorials.mdpc.org</a> . |