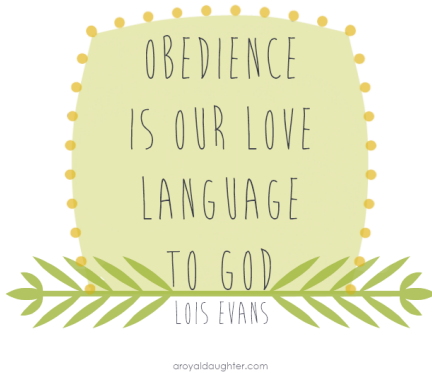


# Loving God Back: by our obedience

## John 14:15-24

*Focus: on loving God back by our glad obedience to His commands*



### RESOURCES:

Here is a link to a helpful sermon by John Piper on this passage:

<http://www.desiringgod.org/messages/if-anyone-loves-me-he-will-keep-my-word>

Here is a helpful summary of the relationship between love and commandments in John:

<http://blogs.thegospelcoalition.org/justintaylor/2011/07/27/the-relationship-between-love-and-commandments-in-the-writings-of-john/>

### Discussion:

- Read John 14:15-24. Note each time Jesus ties love to obedience. Why connect love to obedience instead of say, trust?
- Jesus' teaching is pretty clear! What presses you to disconnect love from obedience? Specifically, what makes obedience to Jesus' commands hard for you?
- How does the language of verses 12 and 23 act as an incentive to you in lovingly obeying God? How is embracing this different than just trying harder?
- The Lenten Project puts forth these two all important questions:
  - 1) Do you really believe God loves you?
  - 2) Are you loving Him back?Discuss what makes saying "Yes" to these questions hard? What helps you say "yes" to them?
- Break into men and women and share what areas of obedience God is pressing on you as an expression of your love for Him.

### 2016 Annual Priority:

*To establish a greater devotion to believing and being shaped by the three great loves embedded in our mission statement's goal of becoming a mature and ministering worshiper of God; love for God, love for the church, and love of neighbor.*

