

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: I Samuel, Part 1 (The Heart of a Leader)

FRIDAY

OPEN

We've been talking beloved about obedience. I mean absolute obedience, not partial obedience, but knowing what God says and doing it despite the circumstances. And today I have in the studio a very special friend of mine and you're going to hear an incredible story about the blessing of obedience. I can't wait to share this with you as we look at God's precepts for life.

PART ONE

Kay: Well beloved we have been in 1 Samuel, chapter 13 and we have watched, as Saul gets impatient. He was told by Samuel to wait 7 days at Gilgal, and then Samuel would come and he would make sacrifices and he would make burnt offerings. But remember what happened. Remember how Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines and stirred them up. And as a result of it the Philistines assembled to fight with Israel and they have this mammoth army and the people began to hide because they were scared. And those that were with Saul at Gilgal begin to scatter. I mean they were trembling as they heard the threat of the enemy. And it says in verse 8 of 1

Samuel 13: “Now he waited seven days...,” speaking of Saul, “...according to the appointed time set by Samuel...,”(1 Samuel 13:8a) Now that’s very important. And if you’ve been following along you underlined that phrase, according to the appointed time set by Samuel, and you wrote next to it, 1 Samuel 10:8 because that’s where the instruction is given. And then we come to that contrast: “...but Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattering from him. So Saul said, ‘Bring to me the burnt offering and the peace offerings.’ And he offered the burnt offering. [And it came about] As soon as [Saul] finished offering the burnt offering, [that] behold, Samuel came; “...and Saul went out to meet him and...greet him. But Samuel said, ‘What have you done?’ And Saul said, ‘Because I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the appointed days, and that the Philistines were assembling at Michmash, therefore I said, “Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not asked the favor of the Lord.” So I forced myself and offered the burnt offerings....’ That excuse won’t fly. “...[And] Samuel said to Saul, ‘You have acted foolishly; you have not kept the commandment of the Lord your God, which He commanded you, for now the Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. But now your kingdom shall not endure. The Lord has sought out for Himself a man after His own heart, and the Lord has appointed him as ruler over His people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you.’”(1 Samuel 13:8b-14) Obedience, total absolute obedience is crucial, as we see. I mean, because of this act beloved, because of the impatience, because of a looking at the circumstances and allowing the circumstances to shape his behavior rather than the Word of God, Saul missed out in having an enduring kingdom in Israel. God said okay, I’m seeking for a man after My own heart, and that’s what God is looking for. And today we have the privilege; I am so excited of being with a woman who is a woman after God’s own heart. And she’s one of the trainers for Precept Ministries and, and our trainers were meeting here at our headquarters and when I saw her and knew that I was teaching this, I thought oh, oh, perfect illustration for you beloved, because I know that you’re going to be blessed. So let me introduce to you Linda Bandy Hines. Now when I

met Linda she was Linda Bandy and Linda I want you to tell them what happened when I met you.

Linda: At a Sunday School Convention in Detroit, and, and I had gone to your workshop. I'd, had been at a Winning Women Conference several years earlier and heard you teach and was just taken with authority of the teaching. And then I saw that you were at this conference so I attended the conference and went to your workshop. And at the end of the workshop I was in line to talk with you and...

Kay: What, how were you dressed?

Linda: My Salvation Army uniform.

Kay: Okay, all right.

Linda: Yes, I know you love that.

Kay: I do.

Linda: So as I was speaking with you, I said when I hear you teach it makes me want to study. And at that point you just looked at me and said well you should come to work for us. And I was like I don't know who us is. I barely know who you are, but okay. And there was just this little quickening in my heart though that said yes; I could do that. And you said to me at that point, go home and pray about it and if God leads you to do that then send us your resume. And then I went home and prayed about it for two months and could not get it out of my mind so I sent the resume.

Kay: And you really felt that that's what God wanted you to do.

Linda: I really did. I really did. But it took some time for that to happen. And if there's anything that I've learned since becoming a Christian is to be obedient and wait. I spent a lot of time waiting for God to fulfill the things that He has told me He would do, and this was about the first of them. And it was a whole year later before I actually came to the ministry. And during that time I had just been praying about it and kind of waiting to come and waiting to come and, and not really doing anything in the way of ministry in my church because I thought, well I'm leaving, so why would I start doing something? And then God put it on my heart that no, I need to be faithful

with what He's given me where I am, so I began a Bible study with young adults on the Sermon on the Mount and it became so large that we couldn't have it in this little house we were in because the, the kids just were eating up the Word.

Kay: How old were the kids, Linda?

Linda: They were high school and early college.

Kay: Un huh.

Linda: And we started with seven and by the end of the month we had over thirty and it was so foundational for them. And we would be there for two or three hours a night doing this study. And they wouldn't cancel for anything. So, so by the time at the end of that year then I came down here for a women's conference and it was there that I was approached about the resume that I had sent a year earlier. And I could see, I mean it was just like God was opening this huge door and I could see that it was time to come.

Kay: Now you were full time with the Salvation Army?

Linda: I wasn't at that point, full time with the Salvation Army. I was very involved with my church full time. I was like the youth minister at my church.

Kay: So did they support you financially? Or where was your income coming from?

Linda: No, well I worked in the secular world.

Kay: Oh.

Linda: And then I just gave all of my time at the church and the evenings and weekends with these young people, so that was my ministry, but I wasn't being paid for it at that point.

Kay: Yeah.

Linda: And by this time I was so in love with what I was doing with these kids that I didn't want to come.

Kay: I understand.

Linda: Yes, but, but I also knew that God was leading me to do this and that I had to come. And I, I sort of felt like Abraham going to a land that wasn't his and that he didn't know. You know I'm from the north and I'm coming to the south and, and I don't know anyone here. But I knew that I had to come. I had to give up everything that I was doing there including that youth group and come here,

Kay: In order to be obedient.

Linda: In order to be obedient. And I trusted that God would make that work. But, and then I also had to trust that if I had to leave those young people that God would have someone else for them, cause He loved them more than I did.

Kay: So like Abraham you held them in an open hand as he did with Isaac.

Linda: Yeah, right, right.

Kay: You put your Isaac on an altar. And you know beloved, that is so important, because sometimes the thing that keeps us from total obedience is we think that if we don't hang on to this, if we don't take care of it, if we don't protect it, then it's going to be destroyed or it's not going to be taken care of and we really in a sense put our self in the place of God.

Linda: Right.

Kay: And think no, I can't obey you God because I've got to do this. And this is really in essence what Saul was doing. Now, we get a hint from 1 Samuel 13 when Jonathan slays these Philistines and then the word goes out that Saul had smitten the garrison of the Philistines, that there is this, you know, that there's this ego issue. But also, he sees these people scattering and he feels like he has to do something.

Linda: Right, save it.

Kay: Save it, un huh and he doesn't do it. Okay, now, I want to move to this most interesting situation that God took you through, because you were here how long?

Linda: Two years.

Kay: Two years, and then God told you to go back.

Linda: Right.

Kay: And tell us what happened when you went back.

Linda: Well, I was offered a position in Detroit back with the Salvation Army full time to be the Christian Education Director for the state of Michigan. And now I loved it here and didn't want to go back there. It's always, you know how it is; you, you love what you're doing and then God asks you to do something else and you... I've always been fortunate to give up something I love to do something I love, but that's because I follow the leading of God. So when I went back to Michigan I became the Christian Education Director and basically I was able to go to all of our churches and institutions and teach Bible study.

Kay: Isn't that neat? I want to stop and interrupt here for just a minute because remember what Samuel says to Saul. God's looking for a man after His own heart and you just said you know, I give us something that I love, but God's fortunately taking me to something I love. But when we give up something that we love because God has told us, it shows God, doesn't it, that we love Him more.

Linda: Right.

Kay: Than what we love.

Linda: Right.

Kay: More than the thing we want to hold on to.

Linda: Right.

Kay: I just have the feeling that, that some of you out there are hanging on to something that you love and you know that God is telling you to let it go and you're afraid to let it go.

Linda: There's no reason to be afraid. I would rather do what God tells me to do because I trust Him. I know that whatever He has for me is going to be good for me and for the kingdom, so there's really no fear in letting go.

Kay: Well, and also your heart is the kingdom.

Linda: Right.

Kay: I mean your heart is beating with His. A heart that's after God's own heart is a heart that is in conformity to the Lord and to His will and His desire and His purposes.

Linda: Exactly, so if it's about the kingdom then you just go where God says to go.

Kay: So you're there, and God tells you to do a very unusual and difficult and hard and really humbling thing. And we're going to hear about that when we come back right after this important announcement.

PART TWO

Kay: Welcome back my friend, my precious, precious listeners. Do you know how much I love you and thank God for you and I just set here and talk to you like you're right in the room with me. And I wish you were in the room with Linda and myself. Linda, how old were you in the Lord when I met you in Detroit and challenged you to come to Precept Ministries?

Linda: I was probably about one.

Kay: One, year old in the Lord.

Linda: One, just, just learning to walk.

Kay: Un huh.

Linda: When I was saved, I had been the church for many years, living under the law of the church, but not having the relationship with, with Jesus Christ. And when that happened all of a sudden I had a real hunger for the Word. I couldn't get enough of it. I knew I wanted to know how to study it. And then I met you at this convention and got into the Word. And so when I came to Precept that's when I really learned how to study and how to really dig out truth and it was through that that I really learned about God, His character. And knowing His character has been so important to me.

Kay: It's crucial, isn't it?

Linda: It's very crucial because you know He's not going to do anything that is going to harm you.

Kay: Right. And you know a lot of people don't know His character Linda because they don't know the Old Testament.

Linda: Right.

Kay: And that's where you meet God. You're introduced to God in the Old Testament and you begin to walk through these events of history and you learn who He is and how He operates so you get to know Him. And then as Daniel 11:32b says, ["then you're able to stand firm and you're able to take action."] And by the way, this is why we have a study guide for you. This is why you can go on line and download our study guide at preceptsforlife.com, preceptsforlife.com. Linda, I want to get this next huge step of obedience.

Linda: I had been teaching Bible studies in Michigan for about eight years and part of my responsibility was to be at camps in the summer with the young people and I was the camp chaplain. And one year the guests for that camp, it was a music camp; the guest was Bill Hines who had a couple of years earlier lost his wife to cancer. I had known him just remotely through the Salvation Army. And at the end of camp I said to a friend of mine, I think he's had a really good time. He seems relaxed. He seems to be you know, getting over this and she said to me yes, I think you're right. And I think he'll marry sooner than people expect that he will. I'm like, really, you think so? And she said yes, and I know who he's going to marry. And I said to her you cannot take me this far and not tell me who it is. Just tell me. She said all right, it's you. Of course I started saying what are you talking about? What are you saying?

Kay: Now how old were you?

Linda: I would have been about 49, 49.

Kay: Yeah, never married.

Linda: Never married, but yes, so then, she just said well think about it. And she has the gift of discernment which scared me, so I began to think about it

and I just said know, you're crazy. And I went home and, again it wouldn't leave my mind and I began to pray about it. And I prayed earnestly for a whole year. I prayed that if this were the case that God would make that known to both of us. I prayed that He would develop a love for Bill even before we were together. He lived in Chicago; I lived in Detroit. We had no communication with each other. So I prayed about that for a whole year and God just kept confirming it and confirming it, confirming it, confirming it, confirming it. And then I went to a Salvation Army conference in, in Chicago right about the end of that year and Bill was coming back to that camp as a guest again. So at that time he introduced me to a woman that he had just started dating a month earlier, and I felt like I had been kicked in the stomach.

Kay: Yeah, I can imagine.

Linda: Yes, I'm, I was sick the rest of the weekend.

Kay: What are You doing Lord?

Linda: Right, that's exactly what I said.

Kay: Yeah, what are You doing?

Linda: Lord, what are You doing? Did I miss this? Am I wrong? You know, have I misunderstood what You've been saying to me?

Kay: And you weren't passionate to get married were you?

Linda: No, I was never looking for this. My, my philosophy had always been I'm going to be fulfilled as a single person. If marriage comes along and it will make more fulfilled I'm open to it, but I'm not going to go pursuing it. So here it was coming at my door and I was saying okay Lord, if this is what you want I'll pursue that. And in praying I felt compelled to tell him what had been going on in my life for the last year. So when he came to the camp I asked him if I could speak with him for a few minutes and we sat down and I said to him, I just want you to know that this is not what I would normally do, that I don't invite myself to date men. But I feel like God wants me to share this with you because you are dating someone and you are going to be making a decision that will affect a lot of people. And she was a lovely

woman and it was just I felt the wrong situation, the wrong timing according to what God was telling me. So, so I shared that with him that I felt for a year that God was telling me that I was to marry him. And he usually has a lot to say about everything and he really had nothing to say.

Kay: I can imagine.

Linda: At that point, he was pretty quiet.

Kay: He was stunned.

Linda: Stunned is right. And essentially he told me he respected me. He didn't share that vision and he went back to Chicago and I went back to Detroit. But I told him that I was moving to Chicago to take a new position. And I told him that I would never bring this up again, that I was not going to pursue it. We would be working in the same building, but I didn't want it to be awkward. I just said I need you to know so you have all the information to make your decisions, and I'll be praying for you. So he, he went back to Chicago and I just went back to my life and I moved to Chicago and I was working with him in the same building, but never really having a lot of contact with him, just hello. And a year later we both attended a wedding in Detroit and I watched him during the evening and he kind of worked his way around the room when he saw me. And all of a sudden he's standing behind me and he said you owe me a dance.

Kay: Wow.

Linda: So I don't know how to dance. So we go out on the floor and, and I don't know where to put my hands and we're kind of spinning around at this very slow waltz kind of a dance and everyone in the room was just staring at us. So after that wedding he knew, he knew right then that I was the person that he was supposed to be with. At work on Monday he said to me, before you leave work would stop by my office? I want to talk to you. And I knew right away what was happening. So I went to talk with him and he said I want to continue this conversation that you started a year ago. Now do you still feel the same about that? And, and I said you know I would really like to make your life easy and say no, that was the stupidest thing I ever said and just forget it. But I stand by what I said and I still believe that this is

what God wants. So you have a decision to make. And you have to decide is the woman you're dating the right person for you or not and again I will be praying for you.

Kay: And what happened?

Linda: Well about...

Kay: How long?

Linda: Six weeks later we had our first date.

Kay: Was he still dating that other woman at this time?

Linda: He, he was and he was breaking that off. He had to decide to break that off. So he did that and then about six weeks later we had our first date. And on our first date he actually asked me to marry him.

Kay: My goodness. Now there is more to this story beloved. And I know that you love a good love story. And there's more to the lesson than just saying yes to the Lord. There's the aftermath of it all. And, and what is the aftermath of obedience? We've seen as we've looked at Saul the aftermath of his disobedience. We see that God realized that this was a man who was not after His own heart. This was a man that was focused on himself, rather than God. And as a result of that this man would be tormented greatly. But He was looking for a man after His own heart. Well that's what we're going to talk about and we'll talk about it in our next program. You won't want to miss it as we look at the practicality of living by God's precepts.