

Message

Title: The Danger Of Luke Warm Faith

Speaker: Pastor Dom O'Connell

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“Partial obedience is still disobedience—real faith means full surrender to Christ's authority.”

Introduction

Ask God to reveal any area where you're holding back obedience, then choose to surrender it this week.

Would you recognise if your faith had become 'lukewarm'—and what would you do about it?

This week, Pastor Dom O'Connell took us deep into the sometimes uncomfortable but life-giving truth about obedience and the danger of a 'lukewarm' faith. Using the idea of being 'Christian-ish', he challenged us to recognise where we may be settling for selective obedience, and reminded us that true authority—at home, in church, or in the world—comes only when we first bring ourselves under Christ's authority.

Through biblical examples and honest reflection, we learned that while salvation is a gift of grace, many of God's blessings flow from a posture of full surrender. Our default human nature inclines us to compromise and self-justification, but Jesus modelled perfect obedience on our behalf. Now it's our turn: not to strive for perfection, but to respond to His love with a surrendered, obedient heart.

Scripture



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Deuteronomy 5:33 — You shall walk in all the way which Yahweh your God has commanded you, that you may live, and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess.

Exodus 19:5 — Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice, and keep my covenant, then you shall be my own possession from among all peoples; for all the earth is mine;

John 14:15 —
If you love me, keep my commandments.

Luke 22:42 — saying,
“Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.”

Philippians 2:8 — And being found in human form, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, yes, the death of the cross.

James 1:14-15 — But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own lust, and enticed.

Genesis 8:21 — Yahweh smelled the pleasant aroma. Yahweh said in his heart, “I will not again curse the ground any more for man’s sake because the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth. I will never again strike every living thing, as I have done.

Psalms 51:5 — Behold, I was born in iniquity.
In sin my mother conceived me.

Romans 7:18-19 — For I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwells no good thing. For desire is present with me, but I don’t find it doing that which is good.

2 Corinthians 11:3 — But I am afraid that somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve in his craftiness, so your minds might be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.



Joshua 1:8 — This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it; for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.

Psalms 139:23-24 — Search me, God, and know my heart.
Try me, and know my thoughts.

James 4:8 — Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Acts 3:19 — “Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, so that there may come times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord,

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 — Or don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,

Don't Miss This

- Obedience is more than following rules: It's a response to God's love, not a way to earn His love. Our full-hearted obedience flows from a relationship, not religion.
- Selective obedience leads to lukewarm faith: Choosing only the parts of Jesus' teaching that suit us is dangerous—it slowly erodes our authority and impact as believers.
- Jesus' obedience covers our failures: We don't earn salvation by being 'good enough'. Christ's perfect obedience makes the way for our ongoing journey of surrender and transformation.

Let's Chat

1. Where are you most tempted to practise 'selective obedience' in your walk with Jesus?
2. Why do you think it's so hard to fully surrender control to God's authority?
3. How does knowing Jesus was fully obedient—where we constantly fail—impact your daily life?
4. In practical terms, what might 'full surrender' look like in your week ahead?
5. Who can help you with accountability and prayer as you step into deeper obedience?



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