

## **Life-Giving Obedience**

**1. In Christ We Find a *Self-Awareness* that Enables Us to *Humble Ourselves*.**

**2. We Need to Serve Christ and Others in This Frame of Mind.**

**3. Trusting Christ with Our Status Is the Only Way to Life.**

CONCLUSION: Last week we saw how Christ's call to us in this gospel partnership together involves us putting to death the evil selfish ambition that is the bane of all humanity. This week our passage focuses on the *life-giving joy* found in obedience with the mind of Christ—a proper awareness of ourselves in the plan of God. We have already received freely from Christ far more glory than we could ever achieve ourselves. Let us see ourselves rightly and so serve Christ and one another with delight in His name together.

## **Luke 14:7-11**

<sup>7</sup> Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, <sup>8</sup> “When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, <sup>9</sup> and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, *go and sit in the lowest place*, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. <sup>11</sup> *For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.*”

## **John 1:1-4**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

## **1 Corinthians 2:12-16**

“Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but *the Spirit* who is from God, *that we might understand the things freely given us by God*. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The *natural person* does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. “For who has understood *the mind of the Lord* so as to instruct him?” *But we have the mind of Christ.*”

## **Hebrews 12:9-10**

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, *who for the joy that was set before him* endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.