

**The Obedient Life: Optional or Required?**

**John 14:15, 21-24**

**8 of 14**

Long ago, there ruled in Persia a wise and good king. He loved his people. He wanted to know how they lived. He wanted to know about their hardships. Often he dressed in the clothes of a working man or a beggar, and went to the homes of the poor. No one whom he visited thought that he was their ruler. One time he visited a very poor man who lived in a cellar. He ate the coarse food the poor man ate. He spoke cheerful, kind words to him. Then he left. Later he visited the poor man again and disclosed his identity by saying, "I am your king!" The king thought the man would surely ask for some gift or favor, but he didn't. Instead he said, "You left your palace and your glory to visit me in this dark, dreary place. You ate the course food I ate. You brought gladness to my heart! To others you have given your rich gifts. To me you have given yourself!"

God is willing to make most any accommodation to have fellowship with us, even becoming human. He calls us to have the same attitude and the same actions toward those around us, the willingness to really live among the lost, so that they might see Jesus in us. (Brett Blair, Sermon Illustrations, 1999.) This week's Daily Bible Reading will be comprised of scripture that challenges us toward "incarnational living".

DAY ONE – John 14:9-14

DAY TWO – John 1:1-18

DAY THREE – 1 Corinthians 13:1-7

DAY FOUR – Philippians 2:1-11

DAY FIVE – 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Memory Verse:

"I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some." – Apostle Paul (1 Corinthians 9:22b)



northeast daily reading

July 24, 2011

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