

Is obedience different from submission?

When one obeys he complies with God's commands (e.g. He does it because God said it). When one submits he subdues his sin nature preferring God's way of living (e.g. He does what is right and risks the consequences [1 Jn 3:6]).

The apostle Paul said that believers are to live in a way pleasing to God (1 Thess 4:1-2) by: being holy and pure (4:3-5, 7-8), not defrauding one another (4:6), loving all believers (4:9-10), taking care of one's own business (4:11) and earning his own living (4:12).¹

The Lord calls his disciples friends (Jn 15:15). Because Jesus died for us (Ro 5:8), we should die to ourselves and live for him (Ro 8:13).

¹ Willmington, H. L. (1999). The Outline Bible (1 Th 4:1-12). Tyndale House Publishers.