



# Bible Character Study



from Godly Pearls

Making Jesus Christ known, one story at a time.



## A NOTE TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS:

Thank you for downloading this Bible Character Study.

This first page contains different sections to help you when planning for your class, for example, Home-school, Sunday School, Bible Study, Bible Club, Mission class, etc.

We suggest that you print pages 2 - 5 and distribute them to your students.



Topic:

The Rechabites – an example of unwavering obedience



Read the Bible References:

The Bible references can be read by different children if possible. Or the teacher can read them.



Goal of Lesson:

- To encourage students to practise obedience – even when no one sees them.



Lesson Takeaway:

Obedience opens the opportunities for us to be blessed.



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Date:



Topic:

The Rechabites – an example of unwavering obedience



Bible References:

Jeremiah 35: 1 – 19



Who were the Rechabites?

The Rechabites were a group of people who came from the family of the Kenites (see Judges 1:16; 1 Chronicles 2:55). They lived as nomads, which means that they lived from one place to the other and did not have a permanent place to live; they did not build a house to live in.

Their father, Jonadab, the son of Rechab, gave them an instruction: “You shall drink no wine, you nor your sons, forever. You shall not build a house, sow seed, plant a vineyard, nor have any of these; but all your days you shall dwell in tents, that you may live many days in the land where you are sojourners” (Jeremiah 35:6-7). So, they did not plant vineyards or even any other crops.



What did the Rechabites do?

In Jeremiah 35:2, God asked the prophet Jeremiah to gather the Rechabites together in a room in the house of the Lord. God then told Jeremiah to give them wine to drink.

But why would God ask Jeremiah to give them wine to drink? Did he want the Rechabites to disobey their father’s instruction?



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## What did the Rechabites do? - Continued

Well, you see, God was testing the Rechabites. He wanted to see whether they would obey their father's instruction or not.

At this time, the children of Israel were rebellious, constantly disobeying God's instructions for them. They were choosing to worship other false gods instead of worshipping the One and Only True God.

So, God was looking for a way to reach out to the children of Israel again, to ask them to turn away from their wicked ways and turn back to God.

Let's get back to the Rechabites. When Jeremiah set the table and asked the Rechabites to drink wine, they replied: "We will drink no wine, for Jonadab the son of Rechab, our father, commanded us, saying, 'You shall drink no wine, you nor your sons, forever (Jeremiah 35:6)."

What an amazing response! The Rechabites said "NO!"



## What can we learn from the Rechabites?

There are many lessons we can learn from the Rechabites.

First, remember that Jeremiah was a godly and respected prophet. He was not one of the false prophets of Israel who claimed to hear from God but were only lying. Jeremiah loved God and often told the Israelites what God wanted them to do. Well, the Rechabites could have thought: "Wow, prophet Jeremiah asked us to drink, well, let's drink! He is a prophet of God." But they did not.



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## What can we learn from the Rechabites? - Continued

So, what does that mean today? If you have been given a godly instruction, don't allow anyone make you disobey that instruction.

Second, their father, Jonadab, who gave them the instruction was already dead; so, did the instruction still matter? The instruction mattered to the Rechabites. They had deep respect for Jonadab and did what he asked them to do even when he was already dead.

Today, we have the word of God to guide us. Does the word of God still matter? The bible was written thousands of years ago – does it still matter? In Isaiah 40:8 – the bible says, “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever”. God's instructions for us have not changed because the world is changing.

Third, obedience opens the opportunities for us to be blessed. After the Rechabites refused to drink wine, Jeremiah said to them, “Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: ‘Because you have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts and done according to all that he commanded you, therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: “Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not lack a man to stand before Me forever (Jeremiah 35:18-19).

Wow, what a blessing! God recognised their obedience and rewarded them for it.

Today, God is looking for people who would obey His instructions; He wants to bless them too.



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**Memorize:**

Ephesians 6:1 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.



**Scenario review:**

You are attending one of your friend's birthday party. "You are not allowed to drink alcoholic wine except water or juice," your parents told you before you left for the party. When you got to the venue of the party, there was juice and lots of alcoholic wine. There were also some bottles of water. All your friends are enjoying their glasses of alcoholic wine and asked you to join them.

Your best friend, James, said: "what is wrong with wine? It's harmless.

You can have some too. And I will never tell your parents that you took wine, I promise."

What will you do? Why did you make that choice?



**Remember:** Obedience opens the opportunities for us to be blessed.



**Let us pray:** Dear God, thank you for giving me your word to guide me.

Please help me to obey the instructions you have given me in the bible. Help me to obey godly instructions. Help me to be an obedient child.

I ask this in Jesus' name, amen!



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We will like to hear from you.

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