

MY HOME COUNTRY VERSUS TEXAS



REPUBLIC OF TEXAS



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Alan B. Shepard Jr. in 1961 became the first American to travel into space. Ten years later, at age 47 and the oldest astronaut in the program, Shepard commanded the Apollo 14 mission and became the 5th and oldest person to walk on the moon. He said the following after taking his first steps:

“When I looked back at the earth, standing on the moon, I cried”

Why did he cry?



“I am going to tell God everything...”

THEME:
OBEDIENCE

MOTTO:

TRUST GOD IN SPITE OF APPEARANCES
(Trust more than 180x)

PRAISE GOD IN SPITE OF CIRCUMSTANCES
(Praise more than 270x)

OBEY GOD IN SPITE OF CONSEQUENCES
(Obey more than 150x)

GENESIS 22:1

DISOBEDIENCE

Cain

Moses

Aaron

King Saul

Solomon

Jonah

OBEDIENCE

Noah

Abraham

**Shadrach, Meshach
and Abednego**

Daniel

Jesus



2013

526,000 people die a violent death annually worldwide.

= A World Trade Center disaster every 1.5 days!

= 32,000 gun related violent deaths in the USA annually.

= 2,266,800 people currently in US jails (excluding parole or probation).

= Almost 50% of all marriages in the USA end up in divorce court.

= Almost 45 million children in the USA are affected by violence/divorce.

...this excludes children that are effected because of the addiction of their parents.

The lives of more than **1 billion children worldwide** are annually affected as a result of...

ACTS OF DISOBEDIENCE

HOW CAN WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

There is an estimate **128 million adult Christians in the USA.**

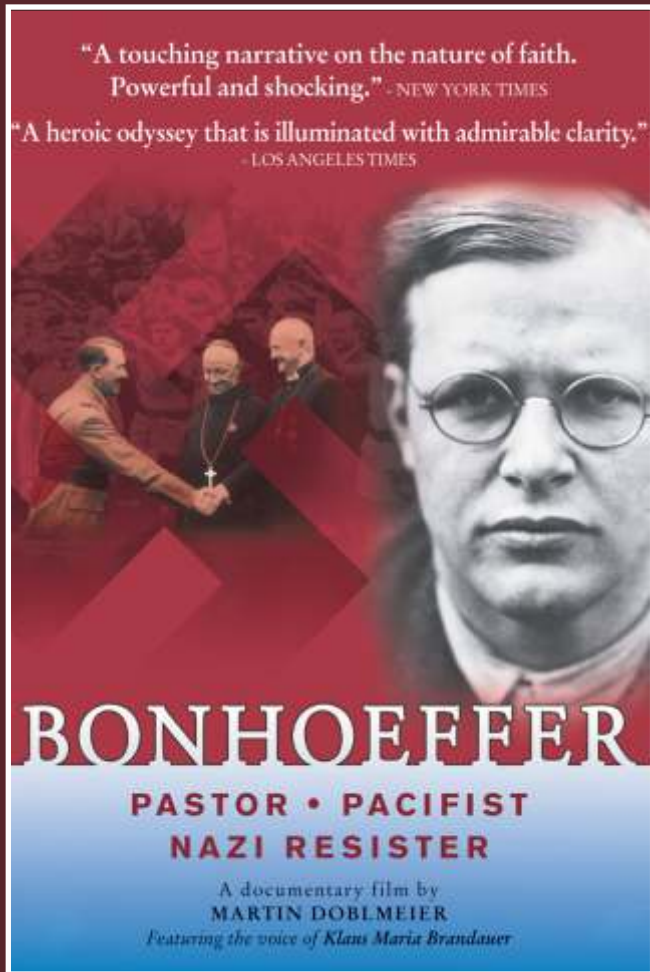
So if each one of us do one good deed a week

one act of obedience...

by praying, sending a text, making a call, giving a compliment, donate a few minutes or a few dollars....

6.65 billion deeds/acts of obedience will take place...

AND GOD WILL BE GLORIFIED!



DIETRICH BONHOEFFER SAID:

**One act of obedience ...
is better than 100 sermons.**

SAMUEL SAID:

**1 Samuel 15:22:
...to obey is better than sacrifice...**

GENESIS 22:1

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. (AVAILABLE) Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love — Isaac — and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. (OBEDIENCE) He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. (COMMITMENT).⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.⁵ He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship (PRAISE) and then we will come back to you." (TRUST). When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. (DEFY LOGIC AND REASON).¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son (SACRIFICE).¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. (CONSISTENT) "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, (CHARACTER) because you have not withheld (TOTAL SURRENDER) from me your son, your only son." (GOD ALWAYS HONORS FAITH AND OBEDIENCE)



MY JOURNEY OF OBEDIENCE IN FAITH

COMPANY

Record year in 2006 – R33 million plus in billings .

First National Bank BEE **Achiever of the Year.**

% Black ownership.

Enterprise development

Skills development

Employment equity

Procurement

Number of employees on payroll.

PRIVATE

7 different properties.

Supported the work of God

= **SUCCESS**

USA Vacation



WHERE WE LIVED (NATURE RESERVE WITH 24 HOUR SECURITY)



FRENCH PROVINCIAL VILLA



THE JOURNEY

Sold vehicles - had to loan a car

Sold house and properties/real estate

Rented own house from new owner.

Started sending e-mails to major US Cities

Houston Mayor's office responded first

USA Roadshow/VISA Applications

Favor in Houston: Free upgrade on rental car

Found apartment exactly what we needed on the first day

Second Baptist Church just down the road

Resale/Auctions/Estate sales

Business partners

Investment funding

THE EXPERIENCE

Are we God's hands on earth?

Are we fulfilling His Word/s by doing....by being obedient?

Humbling experience...stripped of all of who you are...

No credibility...No reputation....No credit score...No networks...

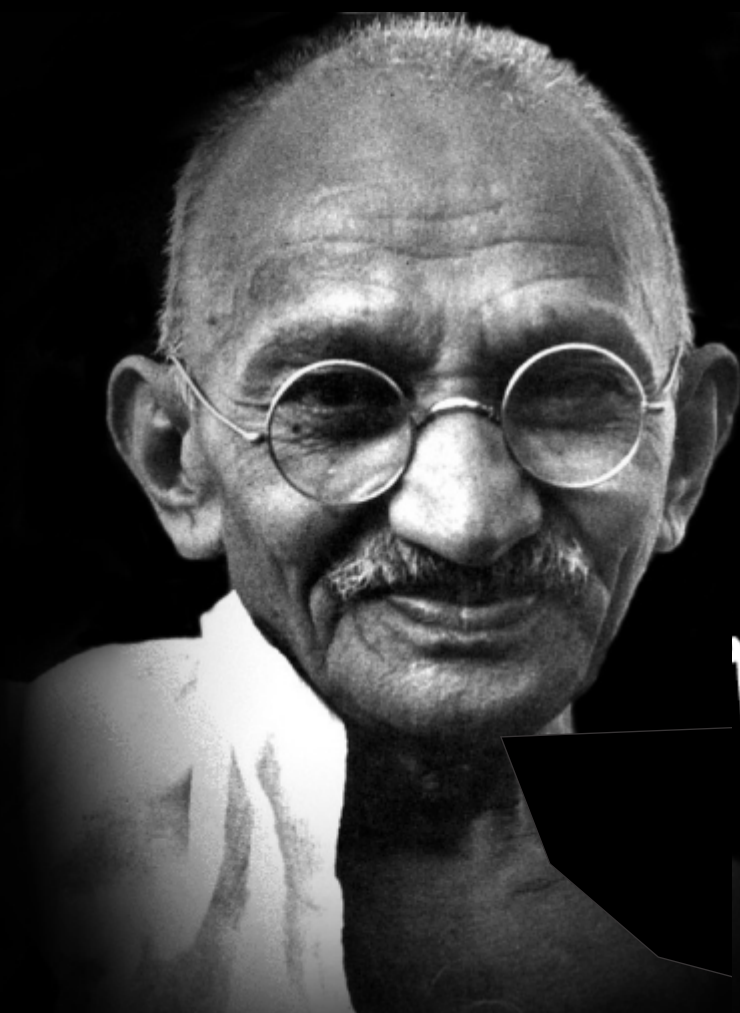
No support structures...you are Nobody...

Zero – just you and your family and God.

Obey God at all times....what about if it is not God telling you to do something? ...a

good deed will be rewarded...sow and you will reap...

And when things are not going your way, as planned or anticipated **....praise God in any case in all circumstances....and that is a challenge.**



**I like your Christ
...but I don't like
your Christians**

Find yourself in the
service of others

— Mohandas Gandhi

SO WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE OBEDIENT?

Available = Here am I.

Be bold = not ashamed

Courage = overcome trials, fears, setbacks, comfort zones.

Character = integrity.

Commitment = stand firm, no hesitation.

Consistency = no deviation.

Defiant = against all odds, against general consensus.

Energy = willingness to serve.

“For a sacrifice or an act of obedience to be real it must cost, must hurt and must empty yourself.”

Mother Teresa

**Calls for total surrender
...of your needs
and your preferences are non-existent.**



YOUR STATE OF OBEDIENCE

= How much you love your God

= How much you value your God

= How much you fear your God



Delayed obedience is disobedience...

CHALLENGE

Stephen the first martyr for Christ:
Acts 7:55: "But Stephen, being full of
the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven
and saw the glory of God, **and Jesus
standing at the right hand of God...**

Are you living your life in such a way
that Jesus can stand up from His
throne and honor your life...?