



LEA Weekly Devotion

Together Again series 2026–2027

Week of August 2, 2026

Keeping

How can you keep all of God's commands, as the Bible so often mandates? The Apostle Paul faced this dilemma as he struggled over his sinfulness:

For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members (Rom. 7:19–23).

Are you among the many believers, including your students, who admit something like, “I really try to obey the 10 Commandments and everything else that God demands, but I just can't do it”?

Don't worry. God has this covered—covered by the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. The resolution to this dilemma rests on the difference between a few words: *keep* and *obey*. In the original languages, there is no question that *obey* means just that: obey. And to *keep* is to cherish and respect the commands.

None of this is to say that God excuses disobedience. It's more like He accepts contrition and repentance. And His forgiveness extends even to grave sins. Even to flaws in your faith. Even to chinks in your daily life and routines. Scripture assures and patiently reassures believers with these words:

Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven...
(Matt. 12:31–32).

Thank God that He cherishes and keeps you.

Question for consideration and prayer: *In what ways does God keep you?*

See a Psalm: [Psalm 119:49–64](#)

Put a song in your heart: [Jesus welcomes sinners](#)

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Written by LEA Editor Emeritus Edward Grube, LL.D.

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**A joyful heart is good medicine,
But a crushed spirit dries up the bones—Prov. 17:22 ESV**

