MAIN SCRIPTURES

- Job 13
- Job 38-40; Romans 9
- Job 42; Gen. 22; Luke 22

SURRENDER: PARTS I & II

- Resistance (Part I)
- Confrontation (Part I)
- Submission (Part II)

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES:

"Surely I will speak first to the Almighty because I desire to argue my case and reason with God." Job 13:3

"Will you even annul my judgment? Will you condemn me, that you may be justified?" Job 40:8 WEBUS

"You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' therefore I have uttered that which I didn't understand, things too wonderful for me, which I didn't know."

Job 42:3 WEBUS

"I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you." Job 42:5 WEBUS

INTRODUCTION: Surrender: Part I (Resistance & Confrontation)

How is it possible to keep your way pure? There is one way only, by living according to the Word of God! And might we include every other virtue with purity? And might we agree that living

according to His Word requires discerning God's will, which oftentimes extends beyond knowing the written Scriptures to guidance from the Holy Spirit into all truth? An intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit will enable you to hear God's voice and know His heart. And might we also agree that this sometimes requires the wise counsel of godly people?

It is common for every Christian to experience the surrendered life some of the time, however we are called to live a life of complete unconditional surrender all of the time. To submit in total surrender is neither easy nor natural; it is rather an art-form practiced by disciples. You can taste real freedom in a moment of unconditional surrender: "Not my will Father, but Your will be done!" True freedom is experienced only when you willingly submit that you have no options. If God's way is the only way, then you are truly free! In other words, "Where the Spirit of the Lord reigns, there is freedom."

The process of coming to this inevitable conclusion shares a common pattern within all humans. First there is resistance. You will argue with God and defend your rights to question His ways and justify yourself. Then you will come face-to-face with a divine confrontation; you will be chastised and challenged by God. If you can withstand the discipline and pass the test, God will concede that you have the right to defend yourself and claim your own

righteousness. But, you won't stand; you won't succeed! After certain failure, you will ultimately acknowledge that true freedom is found only in total submission to God. "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." This is a process in which every Christian must engage—it's the art-form practiced to achieve complete and unconditional surrender. Consider Abraham's submissive response to Yahweh as a perfect example, "Here I am," in the moment he was asked to sacrifice his only son. Your surrender too will be consummated only when you cease to resist God and abandon control of your own life entirely. In other words, acceptable surrender requires total submission to God's will.

There will be many things that you must concede along the way, if you are to lay claim to this achievement. Today we begin our journey into the depths of that ocean of concessions. Let's start with this word of prayer... "Deep inside me I am very sad. So, I will turn to You, my God; from where I am I will pray to you. I hear Your voice like a waterfall; like the sound of thunder. The water pours over me like wave upon wave—so strong that it knocks me down to the ground. Each day, the Lord shows me that He loves me and that he is faithful. Each night He gives me a song to sing, as I pray to the God who lives forever. I know God is my rock, but I often feel like I need to ask Him, 'Why have you forgotten me? Why must I be so

sad? How much longer must I continue to weep, as my enemies do cruel things to me?' It's as if they are permitted to stand over me and laugh as they freely snap my bones like dry twigs. They mock me with blasphemous words, 'Where is your God?' they taunt. So, I ask myself over and over again, 'Why am I so sad and upset?' But then I ultimately submit, as I am reminded that I must wait patiently for God to help me. I know I will praise my God once again, because He always shows up to rescue me." Psalms 42:7-11

RESISTANCE

1. I will argue my case and defend my ways...

A. Let's Get Personal (a prophetic word):

- (1) Sur-render
 - (a) [Sur] from the Latin and generally means:
 - 1. "over," "above," or "upon."
 - (b) [Render] several meanings depending on the context, but it generally refers to:
 - to provide or give—like "to render assistance," meaning to give help.
 - 2. to cause to become—as in "to render someone speechless," meaning to make them speechless.
 - 3. to express or represent—in the artistic sense, such as "to render a portrait," meaning to create or depict it.

- (c) "While I understand the usual definition of surrender, the symbolism I got looked like this: Each time you sense the word "surrender" being highlighted to you, it's actually God speaking something like... My decree in this moment is: I am moving "over," "above," and "upon" you."
 - 1. to provide and give...
 - 2. to cause you to become...
 - 3. to express and represent...

B. Four Critical Errors (that inhibit surrendering to God)

- (1) Arguing with God!
- (2) Claiming you have the rights!
- (3) Questioning God's ways!
- (4) Defending yourself!
 - (a) The process of becoming truly free with a surrendered life shares a common pattern within all humans. First there is resistance.
 - "Surely I will speak first to the Almighty because I desire to argue my case and reason with God." Job 13:3
 - a) You argue with God and defend your rights to question His ways and justify yourself.

C. Consider Job's process—an innocent man...

- (1) The coming test had nothing to do with Job's behavior...
 - (a) Job was innocent!
 - "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God, and turned away from evil." Job 1:1 WEBUS
 - a) Think about it, he was faultless going in, and still...
 - (b) "Have you considered my servant, Job?
 - "Yahweh said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Then Satan answered Yahweh, and said,
 "From going back and forth in the earth, and from walking up and down in it."" Job 1:7 WEBUS
 - a) Satans is going back and forth from heaven to earth. What is he doing?
 - 1) "Be sober and self-controlled. Be watchful. Your adversary, the devil, walks around like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." 1 Peter 5:8 WEBUS
 - b) What is the Devil's chief strategy?
 - 1) "...the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night." Revelation 12:10 WEBUS
 - c) What should you do?

- 1) "Withstand him steadfast in your faith, knowing that your brothers who are in the world are undergoing the same sufferings." 1 Peter 5:9 WEBUS
- 2) "Be subject therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7 WEBUS
- Yahweh said to Satan, "Have you considered my 2. **servant, Job?** For there is no one like him in the earth, a blameless and an upright man, one who fears God, and turns away from evil." Then Satan answered Yahweh, and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing? Haven't you made a hedge around him, and around his house, and around all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. But stretch out your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will renounce you to your face." Yahweh said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power. Only on himself don't stretch out your hand." So Satan went out from the presence of Yahweh." Job 1:8-12 WEBUS
 - a) Satan is shown Job as the perfect example of a righteous man.

- 1) There is no one else like him.
- 2) He is blameless and upright.
- 3) He fears God and shuns evil.
- b) Satan's accusations against Job to Yahweh...
 - 1) Job has no worries because he faces no challenges... his life is totally blessed!
 - 2) God is protecting every one of Job's possessions.
 - 3) God is blessing Job's work and causing his success.
 - 4) But, if God removes that protection and blessing, Job will renounce God to His face.
- c) Satan is granted permission to test Job...
 - 1) "Satan, all Job's possession are in your power."
 - 2) Limitation: "You cannot touch Job himself."
- (c) Satan has his way and systematically has Yahweh destroy every one of Job's possession...
 - 1. "It fell on a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, that a messenger came to Job, and said, "The oxen were plowing, and the donkeys feeding beside them, and the Sabeans attacked, and took them away. Yes, they have killed the servants

- with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you."" Job 1:13-15 WEBUS
- a) All Job's Oxen and Donkeys were stollen and his field servants were murdered!
- 2. "While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The fire of God has fallen from the sky, and has burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them, and I alone have escaped to tell you."" Job 1:16 WEBUS
 - a) Job's sheep and shepherds were burned with fire from the sky (maybe struck with lightening!)
- 3. "While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The Chaldeans made three bands, and swept down on the camels, and have taken them away, yes, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you."" Job 1:17 WEBUS
 - a) Job's camels were stolen and their caretakers murdered!
- 4. "While he was still speaking, there came also another, and said, "Your sons and your daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, and behold, there came a great wind

from the wilderness, and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young men, and they are dead. I alone have escaped to tell you."" Job 1:18-19 WEBUS

a) Job's children all died as the house collapsed on them (likely due to some type of tornado).

(2) Outcome:

- (a) Job remained steadfast...
 - 1. "Then Job arose, and tore his robe, and shaved his head, and fell down on the ground, and worshiped.

 He said, "Naked I came out of my mother's womb, and naked will I return there. Yahweh gave, and Yahweh has taken away. Blessed be Yahweh's name."

 In all this, Job didn't sin, nor charge God with wrongdoing." Job 1:20-22 WEBUS
 - a) Job worshipped Yahweh.
 - b) Job acknowledged that he came into the world with nothing and that he will leave with nothing!
 - c) Job remained a blameless and upright man!
 - 1) "But godliness with contentment is great gain.

 For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly can't carry anything out." 1 Timothy
 6:6-7 WEBUS

- (b) Again... "Have you considered my servant Job?"
 - 1. "Yahweh said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? For there is no one like him in the earth, a blameless and an upright man, one who fears God, and turns away from evil. He still maintains his integrity, although you incited me against him, to ruin him without cause."" Job 2:3 WEBUS
 - a) Yahweh tells Satan, "I told you so..."
 - b) Job remained faithful as predicted.
- (c) Satan acquiesces, but ups the challenge!
 - 1. "Satan answered Yahweh, and said, "Skin for skin.

 Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. But stretch out your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will renounce you to your face."

 Yahweh said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your hand.

 Only spare his life."" Job 2:4-6 WEBUS
 - a) Satan claims that Job remained steadfast because God removed the blessing of his possessions, but did not allow him to touch his physical body.
- (d) The attacks on Job's body begin!
 - 1. "So Satan went out from the presence of Yahweh, and struck Job with painful sores from the sole of his foot to his head. He took for himself a potsherd to scrape

himself with, and he sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still maintain your integrity? Renounce God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women would speak. What? Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" In all this Job didn't sin with his lips." Job 2:7-10 WEBUS

- a) Let the pain begin...
- b) Job's wife is the first to step in and encourage Job to compromise his integrity and to renounce his allegiance to Yahweh.
- c) Job refuses to sin and his response is beautiful...
 - 1) Is it only when all things are going well that we obey God, or are we to remain steadfast even in times of trial?
 - 2) "Not that I speak because of lack, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content in it. I know how to be humbled, and I also know how to abound. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret both to be filled and to be hungry, both to abound and to be in need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:11-13 WEBUS

- (3) Enter the friends (with friends like this...)
 - (a) Each of Job's three friends comes with an approach...
 - 1. "Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that had come on him, they each came from his own place: Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite; and they made an appointment together to come to sympathize with him and to comfort him." Job 2:11 WEBUS
 - a) Job's initial reaction... to curse his own life, not Yahweh
 - 1) "After this Job opened his mouth, and cursed the day of his birth." Job 3:1 WEBUS
 - (b) A sample approach of a "friend..."
 - "Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered, "If someone ventures to talk with you, will you be grieved? But who can withhold himself from speaking? {7}
 "Remember, now, who ever perished, being innocent? Or where were the upright cut off?" Job 4:1-2, 7 WEBUS
 - a) Listen, no one is ever punished if he is innocent.
 - b) You are only getting what you deserve!
 - c) If it was me... Blah Blah Blah...

- 1) "But as for me, I would seek God. I would commit my cause to God," Job 5:8 WEBUS
- (c) Sample response from Job...
 - 1. "Then Job answered, {8} "Oh that I might have my request, that God would grant the thing that I long for, even that it would please God to crush me; that he would let loose his hand, and cut me off! {22} Did I ever say, 'Give to me'? or, 'Offer a present for me from your substance'? or, 'Deliver me from the adversary's hand'? or, 'Redeem me from the hand of the oppressors'? "Teach me, and I will hold my peace. Cause me to understand my error. {30} Is there injustice on my tongue? Can't my taste discern mischievous things?" Job 6:1, 8-9, 22-24, 30 WEBUS
 - a) In reality, all throughout the many chapters in Job in which Job's friends rebuke him and offer their "godly' advice, Job never makes a false claim.
 - b) Job's responses were not necessarily wrong... the fact that he said anything at all is the problem!
- (4) Consider Paul's revelation in Romans....
 - (a) "What shall we say then?"
 - 1. "What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? May it never be! For he said to Moses, "I

will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who has mercy. For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I caused you to be raised up, that I might show in you my power, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." So then, he has mercy on whom he desires, and he hardens whom he desires." Romans 9:14-18 WEBUS

- a) God can do whatever He wants and He owes an explanation to no one!
- (b) Job's friends would ask him (in Romans' context), "If you did nothing wrong, why does God still find fault?"
 - "You will say then to me, "Why does he still find fault? For who withstands his will?"" Romans 9:19 WEBUS
 - a) And Job's answer should have been...
- (c) "Who are you to question God?"
 - 1. "But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed ask him who formed it, "Why did you make me like this?"" Romans 9:20 WEBUS

- a) The Creator owes the creation nothing, not even an explanation.
 - 1) The book of Job would have been a fraction of its length had Job's response to each friend, those self-appointed authorities with self-righteous comments, been this... So...? And...?
 - 2) Again, the facts in Job's responses were not in error; what Job said was all true.
 - 3) The critical error is that he responded at all!

D. Job's Critical Error

- (1) I will reason with God because clearly He's mistaken me for someone else...
 - (a) I have a case to argue...
 - "Surely I will speak first to the Almighty because I desire to argue my case and reason with God." Job 13:3
 - a) I have a good argument against God here. As long as He is willing to listen to sound reason, I can prove I am innocent. Unfortunately for Job...
 - 1) "As it is written, "There is no one righteous; no, not one. There is no one who understands.

 There is no one who seeks after God." Romans
 3:10-11 WEBUS

- 2) "for **all have sinned**, and fall short of the glory of God;" Romans 3:23 WEBUS
- 3) "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." 1 John 1:8 WEBUS
- 4) "If we say that we haven't sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." 1 John 1:10 WEBUS
- 2. "Keep silent and let me speak; then let come on me what may. Why would I put myself in jeopardy and take my life into my own hands? Even if in the end He slays me, my hope will always be in Him; however, before that happens I will argue my case and defend my ways to his face." Job 13:13-15
 - a) Job doubles down on his self-defense; he tells his friends...
 - 1) Be quiet; I am so confident I can defend myself that I am willing to risk the consequences.
 - 2) If I thought it was even remotely possible to turn out badly for me, do you think I'd gamble?
 - 3) And truthfully, even if Yahweh allows me to die, my hope will always be in Him!

- 4) But before that happens, "I will argue my case and defend my ways."
- b) Job, like all of us, needs to be confronted by God before he will ultimately surrender to God completely.

CONFRONTATION

2. "Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge?"

A. Who are you to question God?

- (1) Creation questioning the Creator
 - (a) The Divine Confrontation: "Who are you to question God?"
 - "But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed ask him who formed it, "Why did you make me like this?"" Romans 9:20 WFBUS
 - a) Resist God in any way and you will run smack into a face-to-face confrontation with the Almighty Creator of all things—a divine confrontation.
 - 1) You will be chastised and challenged by God.
 - 2) If you can withstand the discipline and pass the test, God will concede that you have the right to

- defend yourself and claim your own righteousness.
- 3) But, you won't stand; you won't succeed!

B. Where were you when...?

- (1) Confrontation: questioned by God!
 - (a) If you have a legitimate answer, this is the time to speak up!
 - 1. "Then Yahweh answered Job out of the whirlwind, "Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man, for I will question you, then you answer me! "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?

 Declare, if you have understanding." Job 38:1-4 WEBUS
 - a) Consider the entire layout of the book of Job...
 - b) Remember it all began with God revealing that Job was blameless.
 - c) His horrifying trials were permitted by God to prove to Satan that under no circumstance would Job reject Yahweh and blame Him for his terrible suffering.
 - d) But Job became guilty of one overarching error... he defended himself!

- e) He actually never said anything that was factually incorrect; that was not the problem. It was that he said anything at all. That was the problem.
- f) After Yahweh had heard enough, He confronts Job.
- g) Brace yourself Job; I have some questions for you:
 - 1) Who are you to question My choices as if they are in error, when you have absolutely no knowledge of these things?
 - 2) Where were you when...?
 - 3) Job 38:1–Job 39:30 portrays a series of rebukes, all with the same basic challenge; Where were you when I, the Almighty Creator of all things, created this and did that? Who did all these things Job? Was it you?
- (b) After that barrage of questions, Job has an exchange with Yahweh that is very revealing...
 - 1. "Moreover Yahweh answered Job, "Shall he who argues contend with the Almighty? He who argues with God, let him answer it." Then Job answered Yahweh, "Behold, I am of small account. What will I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth. I have spoken once, and I will not answer; Yes, twice, but I will proceed no further." Then Yahweh answered Job

out of the whirlwind: "Now brace yourself like a man. I will question you, and you will answer me. {8} Will you even annul my judgment? Will you condemn me, that you may be justified? Or do you have an arm like God? Can you thunder with a voice like him?" Job 40:1-9 WEBUS

- a) [Yahweh] "Let Me remind you Job that you are arguing with the Creator of the Universe over the choices He makes and what He allows. You are now required to answer for that!"
- b) [Job] "I am finally realizing how foolish it was for such a small speck of creation to contend with the Creator of all things. What can I even say? I should just shut up; I've clearly said way too much already. Nothing I can say now will make things any better, so I am going to say nothing at all!"
- c) [Yahweh] "Not good enough Job! Be a man and defend your choices. I will question you, and you will answer me. Why have you attempted to invalidate My decisions? Did you condemn Me because you just had to be right?"
- (2) Confrontation Test

- (a) If you can do the following, you have permission invalidate My decisions and defend yourself...
 - "Look at everyone who is proud, and humble him.
 Crush the wicked in their place. Hide them in the dust together. Bind their faces in the hidden place.
 Then I will also admit to you that your own right hand can save you." Job 40:12-14 WEBUS
 - a) Look at the proud and humble them...
 - b) Crush the wicked right where they stand...
 - c) Bury all of them together in the ground...
 - d) Be the one to cover their faces in the grave...
 - e) Do these things and I will admit you can defend yourself and My ways were wrong.
 - 1) Then in Job 40:9–Job 41:34, Yahweh challenges Job even further with more "Did you; Can you..." questions.
- (3) Finally Job admits he was wrong to defend himself...
 - (a) I've spoken about things I didn't understand!
 - 1. "Then Job answered Yahweh: "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be restrained. You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' therefore I have uttered that which I didn't understand, things too

wonderful for me, which I didn't know. You said, 'Listen, now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you will answer me.' I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you.

Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes."" Job 42:1-6 WEBUS

- a) Yahweh, you questioned me and demanded an answer—even though I was finally ready to just keep my mouth shut.
- b) I see now that in the past You, oh God, were more of an idea than a reality; but now you are so real to me.
- c) You have exposed me to myself and I don't like what I see, and I repent for ever questioning You and for attempting to defend myself.
- d) I now acknowledge that You can do anything You want without anyone questioning Your methods or motives.
- e) And nothing You choose to do can be prevented by anyone or anything.
- f) You've asked, "Who am I to question God without knowledge?"

- g) My answer is simply to admit... "I have uttered that which I didn't understand, things too wonderful for me, which I didn't know."
- (b) After Job's "Come to Jesus" moment, Yahweh turns His attention to Job's friends—the self-appointed authorities with their self-righteous comments.
 - 1. "It was so, that after Yahweh had spoken these words to Job, Yahweh said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is kindled against you, and against your two friends; for you have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job has." Job 42:7 WEBUS
 - a) Yahweh rebuked Job's friends; they should also have kept their mouths shut and not looked to rationalize all they were witnessing.
 - b) The book of Job in 88 words would read like this:
 - 1) [Yahweh] Job is blameless.
 - 2) [Satan] Job is blameless only because he's got it easy. Make it hard and he will turn on You!
 - 3) [Yahweh] He won't; I'll prove it to you! I'll let you test him.
 - 4) [Scene] Satan is released to destroy Job's possession, family, and his health!
 - 5) [Job] I'm really struggling; pray for me!

- 6) [Wife & Friends] Trust Yahweh; He loves you; He's got you; we are praying for you!
- 7) [Job] Thank you! I know Yahweh has a plan; I see Him through all this suffering and I trust His ways, even when it feels horrible!

c) **Powerful Testimony!**

- 1) "Yahweh restored Job's prosperity when he prayed for his friends. Yahweh gave Job twice as much as he had before." Job 42:10 WEBUS
- (4) This is what Job could have said...
 - (a) Y'shua's prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane
 - "He went forward a little, fell on his face, and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from me; nevertheless, not what I desire, but what you desire."" Matthew 26:39 WEBUS
 - a) Y'shua was on His face in prayer...
 - b) Father, if You are willing, remove this burden...
 - c) But, not My will, but Your will be done!
 - 1) After you resist, you will come face-to-face with a divine confrontation; you will be chastised and challenged by God.

- 2) If you can withstand the discipline and pass the test, God will concede that you have the right to defend yourself.
- 3) But, you won't stand; you won't succeed!
- 4) Maybe it is then you will finally submit to God, no matter what it looks like.
- (5) Preview of the correct approach (details to follow in Section 3: Submission)
 - (a) Surrender that anything is about you!
 - 1. Surrender **Idolatry:** make Yahweh preeminent.
 - 2. Surrender **Ego:** put others first.
 - 3. Surrender **Pride:** operate in meekness.
 - 4. Surrender **Comparisons:** celebrate others' blessings.
 - 5. Surrender **Timeframes:** be patient for God's timing.
 - (b) Surrender that you have any rights at all!
 - 1. Surrender **Expectations:** let disappointment inspire you.
 - 2. Surrender **Requirements:** let God's choice be an option.
 - 3. Surrender **Agendas:** be flexible.
 - 4. Surrender **Entitlements:** be grateful in all outcomes.
 - 5. Surrender **Explanations:** accept that God need not give you reasons.

- (c) Surrender that you can do it yourself, your way, and for you!
 - Surrender Control: release the results to God.
 - 2. Surrender Capabilities: admit you need God's help.
 - 3. Surrender **Self-Will:** sacrifice your desires to God.
 - 4. Surrender **Lust:** live in purity and holiness.
 - 5. Surrender Excuses: take personal responsibility.
- (d) Surrender that you deserve to feel this way!
 - 1. Surrender **Fear:** enjoy true freedom.
 - 2. Surrender **Anger:** live in perfect peace.
 - 3. Surrender **Judgment:** honor others instead.
 - 4. Surrender **Offenses:** look in the mirror and forgive others.
 - 5. Surrender **Regrets:** be content in every phase of life.
- (e) Surrender the poor me attitude!
 - 1. Surrender **Condemnation:** embrace that you are completely reconciled to God, no matter what.
 - 2. Surrender **Self-Pity:** when you don't succeed, replace it with determination.
 - 3. Surrender Victimhood: be enthusiastic to try again.
 - 4. Surrender **Limitations:** humbly submit to whatever it takes for God to finish His work in you.
 - 5. Surrender **Quitting:** persevere through every trial.

a) Job, needed to be confronted by God before he ultimately surrendered to God completely. How about you?

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION FOR PART I

- 1. Refer to the sermon notes pages 5-18...
 - A. Craft an essay that explains in detail Job's critical error.
- 2. Refer to the sermon notes pages 18-26...
 - A. Craft an essay that explains in detail how God confronts Job and Job's ultimate realization.

INTRODUCTION: Surrender: Part II (Submission)

Picture Jonah being commanded to preach to Job. "Jonah, go to Job. Teach him what it means to surrender everything to Me. Show him that he should not defend himself nor look for answers. Help him to understand what it means to trust Me and to submit to Me completely, no matter how bad it gets." The problem with that picture is that Jonah would have needed to submit himself to that very message, and he was not willing! That was me!

Like Jonah, I wanted to run in the other direction; I wanted to jump in the ocean; I wanted to do anything but turn the boat around and to surrender like Job ultimately learned to do. I wanted to leave the boat like Peter, the son of Jonah did when he said,

"Lord, if it is You, command me to come to you on the waters."

Peter should have stayed in the boat and commanded the storm to be still, just as Jesus taught him a short time earlier when, "Jesus rebuked the wind and the sea, and there was a great calm."

There is a little bit, or a lot of, Jonah, and Job, and Peter in all of us. We wrestle with God like Jacob, but oftentimes not for the blessing. We wrestle, instead, to hold onto our own thoughts, our own desires, our own will. God owes us something, doesn't He?

It's all about me; I have rights; I can do it myself, my way, and for me; I deserve to feel this way; I deserve to be pitied. But the truth is this; we can run from these sins, but we can't hide.

Everything will be exposed by God and is accountable to God.

Everything hidden will be exposed by the light. As the psalmist echoed... "Where could I go from your Spirit? Or where could I flee from your presence? If I ascend up into heaven, you are there. If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, you are there! If I take the wings of the dawn, and settle in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand will lead me, and your right hand will hold me."

All that gets exposed by the light must die. We must surrender even the smallest seed of self that remains. Jesus revealed it this way; "Most certainly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone. But if it dies, it bears much

fruit." Sure I can hang on for dear life, hold onto that single fraying thread that signifies anything I am not willing to surrender, but that will never produce ripe kingdom fruit. "For whoever wants to save his life will lose it; and whoever will lose his life for Y'shua's sake and the sake of the Good News will save it."

I guess in the end we can agree to this. Job concluded with this idea. "Thank you Yahweh! I know you have a plan for me and it's a good plan; I had heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You. I recognize You through all this suffering and I trust Your ways even when it feels horrible!" And Jonah could have shortened his journey had he concluded... "I made a mistake; turn the boat around and head to Nineveh." And Peter should have just stayed in the boat and rebuked the wind and the sea and there would have been a great calm. That great calm comes only when one reaches this conclusion; "Not my will, but Your will be done!"

SUBMISSION

1. Not My Will, but Yours be Done!

A. The art-form practiced to achieve unconditional surrender...

- (1) After first resisting God, and then being confronted by God, you will ultimately admit you were wrong!
 - (a) Yahweh was right; nothing He purposes can be stopped!

- 1. "Then Job answered Yahweh: "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be restrained. You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' therefore I have uttered that which I didn't understand, things too wonderful for me, which I didn't know." Job 42:1-3 WEBUS
 - a) After certain failure, you will ultimately acknowledge that true freedom is found only in total submission to God.
 - 1) "Stand firm therefore in the liberty by which
 Christ has made us free, and don't be entangled
 again with a yoke of bondage." Galatians 5:1
 WEBUS
 - 2) This is a process in which every Christian must engage—it's the art-form practiced to achieve complete and unconditional surrender.
 - b) You can taste real freedom in a moment of unconditional surrender: "Not my will Father, but Your will be done!"
 - c) True freedom is experienced only when you willingly submit that you have no options. If God's way is the only way, then you are truly free!

- 1) ONLY "If therefore the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed." John 8:36 WEBUS
- d) In other words, "Where the Spirit of the Lord reigns, there is freedom."
 - 1) "Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." 2
 Corinthians 3:17 WEBUS
- (b) Willful Obedience: Abraham
 - 1. "After these things, God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" He said, "Here I am." He said, "Now take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go into the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains which I will tell you of."" Genesis 22:1-2 WEBUS
 - a) Consider Abraham's submissive response to Yahweh as a perfect example, "Here I am," in the moment he was asked to sacrifice his only son.
 - b) Your surrender too will be consummated only when you cease to resist God and abandon control of your own life entirely.
 - c) In other words, acceptable surrender requires total submission to God's will.

- 1) "I heard the Lord's voice, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said,
 "Here I am. Send me!"" Isaiah 6:8 WEBUS
- (c) Contrast this with Jonah's willful disobedience...
 - 1. "Now Yahweh's word came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach against it, for their wickedness has come up before me." But Jonah rose up to flee to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh. He went down to Joppa, and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid its fare, and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish from the presence of Yahweh." Jonah 1:1-3 WEBUS
 - a) Not "Here I am. Send me!
 - b) But, "Here I go. I will flee!"
- (2) Total submission to God's will.
 - (a) Are you willing to drink from that cup?
 - 1. "But Jesus answered, "You don't know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to him, "We are able." He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with;

- but to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not mine to give, but it is for whom it has been prepared by my Father."" Matthew 20:22-23 WEBUS
- a) In an impetuous moment of commitment you tell the Lord, "I'm all in, whatever it takes!"
- b) But then He clarifies, "Do you really comprehend to what you are committing?"
- c) Yes, you will drink of His cup!
- (b) What cup?
 - "He went forward a little, fell on his face, and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from me; nevertheless, not what I desire, but what you desire."" Matthew 26:39 WEBUS
 - a) Even Christ would rather have not needed to give His life, if there was another way.
 - b) And yet, in the ultimate act of submission to His Father He prayed...
 - "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."" Luke 22:42 WEBUS
 - c) He was willing to give His life if that is what it would take to complete the mission. Are you?

- (3) He must increase; you must decrease!
 - (a) Everything in your life is orchestrated from God's throne.
 - 1. "John answered, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven. You yourselves testify that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before him.' He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore my joy is made full. He must increase, but I must decrease." John 3:27-30 WEBUS
 - a) You must get out of His way if the Lord is going to use you for maximum impact for the Kingdom of Heaven!
 - (b) We must surrender even the smallest seed of self that remains. Jesus revealed it this way...
 - 1. "Most certainly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone. But if it dies, it bears much fruit. He who loves his life will lose it. He who hates his life in this world will keep it to eternal life. If anyone serves me, let him follow me. Where I am, there my servant

- will also be. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him." John 12:24-26 WEBUS
- a) If you love the life you are living and all the creature comforts it affords you, financial, safety, comfort, simplicity, flexibility, liberty to do what pleases you, etc. all those things will be lost in the end.
- b) But, if you want to serve Him, if you want to "be where He is," then you will need to let those things die. Only then will you truly bear fruit.
- (c) If you really want to live the life of a disciple...
 - 1. "He said to all, "If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever will lose his life for my sake will save it." Luke 9:23-24 WEBUS
 - a) Disciples do four things consistently...
 - 1) They chase after Jesus wherever He goes, whenever He moves, and do whatever it takes to please Him!
 - 2) They deny their own desires!
 - 3) They are willing to suffer whatever is necessary...

- 4) They let Jesus lead the way!
- b) Sure you can hang on for dear life, hold onto that single fraying thread that signifies anything you are not willing to surrender, but that will never produce ripe kingdom fruit.
- (4) God's way, even if you don't understand why...
 - (a) Sacrifice Your Understanding
 - 1. ""For my thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not my ways," says Yahweh. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down and the snow from the sky, and doesn't return there, but waters the earth, and makes it grow and bud, and gives seed to the sower and bread to the eater; so is my word that goes out of my mouth: it will not return to me void, but it will accomplish that which I please, and it will prosper in the thing I sent it to do." Isaiah 55:8-11 WEBUS
 - a) Know this: God's thoughts are not your thoughts; Your ways are not His ways! So, get in alignment with His mind!

- 1) "Don't be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what is the good, well-pleasing, and perfect will of God." Romans 12:2 WEBUS
- 2) "throwing down imaginations and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God and bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ," 2 Corinthians 10:5 WEBUS
- 3) ""For who has known the mind of the Lord that he should instruct him?" But we have Christ's mind." 1 Corinthians 2:16 WEBUS
- b) And know this:
 - 1) Everything God declares will come to pass.
 - 2) God will accomplish everything He intends.
 - 3) God's will is the very essence of prosperity.
- (5) God's way, even when you have no strength...
 - (a) When you are weak...
 - "Therefore I take pleasure in weaknesses, in injuries, in necessities, in persecutions, and in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then am I strong."
 2 Corinthians 12:10 WEBUS

- a) **The Kingdom Ecosystem:** when you fall short on absolutely anything, God fills in the gap.
- b) In fact, you will delay God's work in your life to the extent that you insist you can do it yourself!
 - 1) "I can do all things through **Christ who**strengthens me." Philippians 4:13 WEBUS
- (b) God's way, even when you are tempted...
 - 1. "No temptation has taken you except what is common to man. God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted above what you are able, but will with the temptation also make the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it." 1 Corinthians 10:13 WEBUS
 - a) Even in the midst of the most difficult of all circumstances, God has provided a path to victory!
 - 1) "We know that **all things work together for good** for those who love God, for those who are
 called according to **his purpose.**" Romans 8:28
 WEBUS
 - 2) "No, in all these things we are **more than** conquerors through him who loved us."

 Romans 8:37 WEBUS

- 3) "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57 WEBUS
- (6) Contentment is possible no matter the circumstance...
 - (a) It's a learned behavior...
 - 1. "Not that I speak because of lack, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content in it. I know how to be humbled, and I also know how to abound. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret both to be filled and to be hungry, both to abound and to be in need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:11-13 WEBUS
 - a) Contentment in the midst of any environment is not an automatic feeling, it's a something that must be practiced.
 - b) Contentment is the offspring of godliness which is the active desire and pursuit to please God in every part of your life.
 - 1) "But godliness with contentment is great gain.

 For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly can't carry anything out. But having

- food and clothing, we will be content with that." 1 Timothy 6:6-8 WEBUS
- 2) From Job: "He said, "Naked I came out of my mother's womb, and naked will I return there. Yahweh gave, and Yahweh has taken away.

 Blessed be Yahweh's name."" Job 1:21 WEBUS
- c) And Godliness must be practiced...
 - "But refuse profane and old wives' fables.
 Exercise yourself toward godliness." 1 Timothy
 4:7 WEBUS
- d) Just as Freedom must be practiced!
 - 1) "If therefore **the Son makes you free**, you will be **free indeed.**" John 8:36 WEBUS
 - 2) "Stand firm therefore in the liberty by which
 Christ has made us free, and don't be entangled
 again with a yoke of bondage." Galatians 5:1
 WEBUS
- (7) Consider your life to have already been completely sacrificed to the Lord!
 - (a) Poured out as a Drink Offering!
 - 1. "For I am already being offered [being poured out as a drink offering], and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight. I have finished

the course. I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:6-7 WEBUS

- a) So do everything without grumbling and complaining!
 - 1) "For it is God who works in you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without complaining and arguing," Philippians 2:13-14 WEBUS
 - 2) "Yes, and **if I am poured out** [as a drink offering] on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all."

 Philippians 2:17 WEBUS
- b) The Drink Offering
 - 1) Imagine a glass of wine being tossed into a raging inferno. The liquid is instantly vaporized into steam, which then dissipates into nothing in the environment.
 - 2) That is the picture of your surrendered life in service to God!
- (b) OSWALD CHAMBERS <u>Are You Ready To Be Offered?</u>

 My Utmost for His Highest <u>Classic Edition (1935)</u>
 - I am already being poured out as a drink offering—
 Timothy 4:6 (February 06)

- a) "I am ready to be offered." It is a transaction of will, not of sentiment. Tell God you are ready to be offered; then let the consequences be what they may, there is no strand of complaint now, no matter what God chooses. God puts you through the crisis in private, no one person can help an other. Externally the life may be the same; the difference is in will. Go through the crisis in will, then when it comes externally there will be no thought of the cost. If you do not transact in will with God along this line, you will end in awakening sympathy for yourself.
- b) "Bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar." The altar means fire burning and purification and insulation for one purpose only, the destruction of every affinity that God has not started and of every attachment that is not an attachment in God.
- c) You do not destroy it, God does; you bind the sacrifice to the horns of the altar; and see that you do not give way to self-pity when the fire begins.

 After this way of fire, there is nothing that oppresses or depresses. When the crisis arises,

you realize that things cannot touch you as they used to do. What is your way of fire?

- d) Tell God you are ready to be offered, and God will prove Himself to be all you ever dreamed He would be.
 - 1) Tell God you are ready to be offered by surrendering these 25 things.
 - 2) After facing the crises and surrendering, there is nothing that can oppress you or depress you!
 - 3) Like Job: "I had heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You." Job 42:5
- **B.** <u>25 Areas to Totally Surrender:</u> cease resistance, abandon oneself and control of one's life entirely, and come into complete submission to God.
 - (1) Surrender that anything is about me!
 - (a) **Surrender Idolatry:** Don't put anything before God.
 - "You shall have **no other gods before me**." Exodus
 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Preeminence:** Consider first what would please God every time as your top priority.
 - 1) "But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue..." II Peter 1:5 NKJV

- (b) **Surrender Ego:** Abandon the self-centered, self-focussed, self-important, narcissistic life. Don't have an excessive opinion of yourself or regard yourself first.
 - 1. "Therefore, when you do merciful deeds, don't sound a trumpet before yourself, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may get glory from men. Most certainly I tell you, they have received their reward." Matthew 6:2 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Preferring Others:** Place the interests of others above your own!
 - "doing nothing through rivalry or through conceit, but in humility, each counting others better than himself;" Philippians 2:3 WEBUS
- (c) **Surrender Pride:** Run from envy and jealousy. Avoid the need for recognition, the need to be noticed front and center in order to be self-gratified.
 - "Pride goes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit before a fall." Proverbs 16:18 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Meekness:** access to absolute power and authority, but practiced with complete humility and kept under control.
 - 1) Temper Power and Authority: "Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place, for

- all those who take the sword will die by the sword. Or do you think that I couldn't ask my Father, and he would even now send me more than twelve legions of angels?" Matthew 26:52-53 WEBUS
- 2) Avoid Recognition: "Be careful that you don't do your charitable giving before men, to be seen by them, or else you have no reward from your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 6:1 WEBUS
- (d) **Surrender Comparisons:** Do not base your contentment or satisfaction by correlating your life with others. Have no need for equity, equivalence, or even superiority. Avoid needless commentaries or reporting about others.
 - "For I say through the grace that was given me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think; but to think reasonably, as God has apportioned to each person a measure of faith." Romans 12:3 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Celebration:** Enjoy the success of others and honor them with words of life for their accomplishments.

- 1) "Let no corrupt speech proceed out of your mouth, but only what is good for building others up as the need may be, that it may give grace to those who hear." Ephesians 4:29 WEBUS
- 2) "And the tongue is a fire. The world of iniquity among our members is the tongue, which defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature, and is set on fire by Gehenna."

 James 3:6 WEBUS
- (e) **Surrender Timeframes:** Don't place times constraints on God. He is never early nor is He ever late. Even the Lord practices patience!
 - 1. "The Lord is not slow concerning his promise, as some count slowness; but he is patient with us, not wishing that anyone should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Patience:** Don't give up or give in when things don't happen in your own timeframe. Stay the course and persevere for as long as it takes.
 - 1) "Let's not be weary in doing good, for we will reap in due season if we don't give up."

 Galatians 6:9 WEBUS

- (2) Surrender that I have any rights at all!
 - (a) **Surrender Expectations:** It is a form of bondage to make assumptions or presumptions about what God has planned or that things must happen to your satisfaction.
 - "So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who has mercy." Romans 9:16 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Inspiration:** Instead of being disappointed that things did not work out the way you planned, be encouraged that God's purpose must include something even better for you! Let every setback motivate you!
 - 1) "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 WEBUS
 - (b) **Surrender Requirements:** God is not in debt to you. You should have no demands or necessary conditions that God must fulfill. Demand no necessities; insist on no prerequisites; and have no stipulations.
 - 1. "Who has first given to me, that I should repay him?
 Everything under the heavens is mine." Job 41:11
 WEBUS

- a) **Practice Optional:** Be ready to pivot at any moment to adjust your "necessities" to God's provisions! He provides everything you need, so if He has not provided it, you don't need it!
 - 1) "seeing that his divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue," 2 Peter 1:3 WEBUS
- (c) **Surrender Agendas:** Recognize that your personal intentions and motives may not necessarily match God's plans and strategies for you.
 - 1. "Then Job answered Yahweh: "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be restrained. You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' therefore I have uttered that which I didn't understand, things too wonderful for me, which I didn't know." Job 42:1-3 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Flexible:** God has a plan for you and it's a good plan. Your job is to align your life with His plans, not to align His plan with your life.
 - 1) "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you [the plans I have for you]," says Yahweh,

- "thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11 WEBUS
- (d) **Surrender Entitlements:** What rights do you really have? What do you inherently deserve? What privileges does God owe to you?
 - "He said, "Naked I came out of my mother's womb, and naked will I return there. Yahweh gave, and Yahweh has taken away. Blessed be Yahweh's name."" Job 1:21 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Gratitude:** Offer Yahweh a sacrifice of praise. You need not be grateful for all circumstances, but you must praise Him and be grateful in all circumstances.
 - 1) "I will bless Yahweh at all times. His praise will always be in my mouth." Psalms 34:1 WEBUS
- (e) **Surrender Explanations:** God does not owe you a reason for why He does anything. You need not understand His methods nor His motives.
 - 1. ""For my thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not my ways," says Yahweh. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9 WEBUS

- a) **Practice Acceptance:** Welcome what God has for you with joy, even when God has not revealed why things are the way they are.
 - 1) "Trust in Yahweh with all your heart, and don't lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6 WEBUS
- (3) Surrender that I can do it myself, my way, and for me!
 - (a) **Surrender Control:** You need not manipulate others. Do not intervene to influence the course of events or to manage outcomes. Don't assert that you are the authority who will do whatever it takes to get the results your require.
 - 1. "Woe to him who strives with his Maker— a clay pot among the clay pots of the earth! Shall the clay ask him who fashions it, 'What are you making?' or your work, 'He has no hands'?" Isaiah 45:9 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Release:** Let go and let God!
 - 1) "I can of myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is righteous, because I don't seek my own will, but the will of my Father who sent me." John 5:30 WEBUS

- (b) **Surrender Capabilities:** To claim you are able, have the capacity, possess the power, display the potential, or can exercise the strength on your own is a grave error.
 - 1. "But he said, "The things which are **impossible with** men are possible with God."" Luke 18:27 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Support:** You cannot do it on your own; you need God.
 - 1) "I can do all things through **Christ who**strengthens me." Philippians 4:13 WEBUS
- (c) **Surrender Self-Will:** Reject any deliberate or fixed belief that demands things must be your way. Your desires or intentions must take a back seat to God's will. To insist on your own way, in defiance to God, is an act of rebellion. Do not exert control in order to deliberately make something happen.
 - 1. "Now **go and strike Amalek, and utterly destroy** all that they have, and **don't spare them**; but kill both man and woman, infant and nursing baby, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.'"" 1 Samuel 15:3 WEBUS
 - 2. "Samuel came to Saul; and Saul said to him, "You are blessed by Yahweh! I have performed the commandment of Yahweh." Samuel said, "Then what does this bleating of the sheep in my ears and the

"They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the cattle, to sacrifice to Yahweh your God. We have utterly destroyed the rest."" 1 Samuel 15:13-15 WEBUS

- 3. "Why then didn't you obey Yahweh's voice, but took the plunder, and did that which was evil in Yahweh's sight?" Saul said to Samuel, "But I have obeyed Yahweh's voice, and have gone the way which Yahweh sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites."
 - 1 Samuel 15:19-20 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Sacrifice:** forgo or relinquish your own desire is in lieu of what God wants.
 - 1) "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." Luke 22:42 WEBUS
- (d) **Surrender Lust:** Don't be ruled by passions driven by the flesh nature, carnal appetites, harmful cravings, and the desire for self-satisfaction and self-fulfillment.

- "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, for its lusts." Romans 13:14
 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Purity:** Seek wholeness, lack of contamination and corruption; be unmixed with and untainted by the carnal world.
 - 1) "To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their mind and their conscience are defiled." Titus 1:15 WEBUS
- (e) **Surrender Excuses:** Cease from rationalizing and from offering reasons for your or another's wrongful deeds, unacceptable behavior, or lack of follow through. Don't seek to defend or justify a fault, offense, or ungodly belief, or attempt to lessen its significance as everything is known by the Lord
 - 1. "This is the end of the matter. All has been heard.

 Fear God and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether it is good, or whether it is evil." Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

 WEBUS

- a) **Practice Responsibility:** Be accountable for your own actions and choices; and hold others accountable for their actions and choices.
 - 1) "Brothers, even if a man is caught in some fault, you who are spiritual must restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, looking to yourself so that you also aren't tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if a man thinks himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each man examine his own work, and then he will have reason to boast in himself, and not in someone else. For each man will bear his own burden."

 Galatians 6:1-5 WEBUS
 - 2) "Don't be deceived. God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap." Galatians 6:7 WEBUS
- (4) Surrender that I deserve to feel this way!
 - (a) **Surrender Fear:** To worry is to say that you don't trust God. Anxiety over outcomes, or worse yet, over that which does not even exist, is the enemy of peace—and says to the Lord, "You are not enough!"

- "Don't you be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you. Yes, I will uphold you with the right hand of my righteousness." Isaiah 41:10 WEBUS
- 2. "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear has punishment. He who fears is not made perfect in love." 1 John 4:18 WEBUS
- 3. "In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7 WFBUS
 - a) **Practice Freedom:** You know you have nothing to lose because the worst it can be after this life is over is better than the best it will ever be during this life. True freedom is experienced only when you willingly submit that you have no options. If God's way is the only way, then you are truly free!
 - 1) "For God didn't give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control." 2 Timothy 1:7 WEBUS

- 2) "When I am afraid, I will put my trust in you." Psalms 56:3 WEBUS
- 3) "Stand firm therefore in the liberty by which
 Christ has made us free, and don't be entangled
 again with a yoke of bondage." Galatians 5:1
 WEBUS
- (b) Surrender Anger: When you live in a state of annoyance, irritation, irritability, frustration, and resentment, you will undoubtedly let your temper flare. Don't be rattled by the injustices around you, instead seek peace!
 - "So, then, my beloved brothers, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger; for the anger of man doesn't produce the righteousness of God." James 1:19-20 WEBUS
 - 2. ""Be angry, and don't sin." Don't let the sun go down on your wrath, and don't give place to the devil."

 Ephesians 4:26-27 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Peace:** A tranquil feeling; to live in a state of joy without disturbance and without conflict. To feel calm and serene.
 - 1) "I have told you these things, that in me you may have peace. In the world you have trouble;

- but cheer up! I have overcome the world.""
 John 16:33 WEBUS
- 2) "If it is possible, as much as it is up to you, **be at peace with all men.**" Romans 12:18 WEBUS
- (c) **Surrender Judgment:** Don't come to a premature or automatic determination, criticism, condemnation, assumption, conclusion, or discrimination against someone or something.
 - "Therefore you are without excuse, O man, whoever you are who judge. For in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself. For you who judge practice the same things." Romans 2:1 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Honor:** Begin with assuming the best of others. Be optimistic about people. Appreciate revere, and respect someone for what is positive about them. When you feel like judging someone for doing that which deserves condemnation, first compliment them for what deserves praise—that should abort the feeling of judgment!
 - "Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips."
 Proverbs 27:2 WEBUS

- 2) "Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor that which is evil. Cling to that which is good. In love of the brothers be tenderly affectionate to one another; in honor prefer one another," Romans 12:9-10 WEBUS
- (d) **Surrender Offenses:** You will be harmed in life—many times. You and someone you love will be sinned against, but you must not let bitterness, revenge, resentment, or animosity fester in your heart. That would be like cancer to your bones. Let God be the arbiter of equity.
 - 1. "Pray like this: "'Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. Let your Kingdom come. Let your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors. Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.'

 "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you don't forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." Matthew 6:9-15

 WEBUS

- a) **Practice Forgiveness:** Release others and maintain no ill will against them for sinning against you or someone you care about, or for harming you or someone you care about.
 - that no offenses should come, but woe to him through whom they do come! It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones. Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him."" Luke 17:1-4 NKJV
 - 2) "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."" John 20:23 NKJV
- (e) **Surrender Regrets:** Moments of grief, sadness, sorrow, and disappointment are natural experiences in life, but they are temporary. Don't wallow in them.

- 1. "I will extol you, Yahweh, for you have raised me up, and have not made my foes to rejoice over me. Yahweh my God, I cried to you, and you have healed me. Yahweh, you have brought up my soul from Sheol. You have kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit. Sing praise to Yahweh, you saints of his. Give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment. His favor is for a lifetime.
 Weeping may stay for the night, but joy comes in the morning. As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."" Psalms 30:1-6 WEBUS
 - a) Practice Contentment: To find satisfaction in all circumstances.
 - 1) "Not that I speak because of lack, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content in it. I know how to be humbled, and I also know how to abound. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret both to be filled and to be hungry, both to abound and to be in need." Philippians 4:11-12 WEBUS
- (5) Surrender the poor me attitude!
 - (a) **Surrender Condemnation:** Mistakes are part of the human experience. However, this does not mean you

- should live in a state of guilt, shame and remorse. To hate one's own sin is noble; to condemn oneself for sin is demonic. Condemnation is from the Devil.
- 1. "Now on the day when God's sons came to present themselves before Yahweh, Satan also came among them. Yahweh said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Then Satan answered Yahweh, and said, "From going back and forth in the earth, and from walking up and down in it." Yahweh said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant, Job? For there is no one like him in the earth, a blameless and an upright man, one who fears God, and turns away from evil."" Job 1:6-8 WEBUS
- 2. "I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, the power, and the Kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ has come; for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night."

 Revelation 12:10 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Reconciliation:** You were granted a new identity when you became a Christian. That new person is already completely reconciled to God and thus is not subject to condemnation!

- 1) "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away.

 Behold, all things have become new. But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and gave to us the ministry of reconciliation;" 2 Corinthians 5:17-18

 WEBUS
- 2) "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit." Romans 8:1 WEBUS
- (b) **Surrender Self-Pity:** When things don't go as planned, and those loses seem to pile up, it is common to pity oneself. Don't do that! It's acceptable to feel sorry for oneself for a moment, but then it's time to move on! Plus, living is a state of sorrow is also like a sticky sin that gets on everyone with whom you come into contact.
 - 1. "But I determined this for myself, that I would not come to you again in sorrow. For if I make you grieve, then who will make me glad but he who is made to grieve by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, so that when I came, I wouldn't have sorrow

- from them of whom I ought to rejoice; having confidence in you all that my joy would be shared by all of you." 2 Corinthians 2:1-3 WEBUS
- a) **Practice Determination:** This character trait screams, "Tribulations and failures only make me stronger!" Indulging in feeling bad for oneself will paralyze you from moving forward.
 - 1) "Therefore I take pleasure in weaknesses, in injuries, in necessities, in persecutions, and in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then am I strong." 2 Corinthians 12:10 WEBUS
- (c) **Surrender Victimhood:** To feel tricked, duped, or helpless is certainly part of the lives of those who don't have a relationship with God. But you have experienced what it means to overcome with God, and thus you are not a victim anymore.
 - 1. "Therefore remember that once you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called "uncircumcision" by that which is called "circumcision" (in the flesh, made by hands), that you were at that time separate from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But

now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off are made near in the blood of Christ." Ephesians 2:11-13 WEBUS

- a) **Practice Enthusiasm:** to be intense, eager, passionate, zealous, exuberant and committed to the victory—no matter how long it takes and no matter what is required.
 - 1) "Jacob was left alone, and wrestled with a man there until the breaking of the day. When he saw that he didn't prevail against him, the man touched the hollow of his thigh, and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was strained as he wrestled. The man said, "Let me go, for the day breaks."

 Jacob said, "I won't let you go unless you bless me." He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob". He said, "Your name will no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have fought with God and with men, and have prevailed."" Genesis 32:24-28 WEBUS
 - 2) "So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens [of Israel] with the saints and of the household of God," Ephesians 2:19 WEBUS

- 3) "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57 WEBUS
- (d) **Surrender Limitations:** It is natural to believe in the midst of trials that you have endured enough already and you've reached your limits. But, with the Lord there are no restrictions on what He will allow to finish His work in you! Anything is permissible or possible when God is in control.
 - 1. "Therefore let's also, seeing we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising its shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Humility:** Come into agreement with God and humbly submit to whatever it takes for Him to finish His work in you.

- 1) "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time," 1 Peter 5:6 WEBUS
- (e) **Surrender Quitting:** I've done enough; I've endured enough; I've waited long enough; I'm over it! Be willing to endure whatever it takes for however long it takes for God's work to be perfected in you.
 - 1. "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you fall into various temptations, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. Let endurance have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." James 1:2-4 WEBUS
 - a) **Practice Perseverance:** This is the school of hard knocks and your diploma reads, {Your Name} has satisfactorily completed studies in Character and Hope (prayerfully with honors)! You are now equipped to enter the workforce and you will not be disappointed!
 - 1) "Not only this, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope doesn't disappoint us, because God's love

has been poured into our hearts through the
Holy Spirit who was given to us." Romans 5:3-5
WEBUS

UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER EXERCISE FOR PART II

- 1. Refer to the 25 areas to totally surrender... How is it possible to keep your way pure? There is one way only, by living according to the Word of God (Psalms 119:9)! And might we include every other virtue with purity? And might we agree that living according to His Word requires discerning God's will, which oftentimes extends beyond knowing the written Scriptures to guidance from the Holy Spirit into all truth? An intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit will enable you to hear God's voice and know His heart. And might we also agree that this sometimes requires the wise counsel of godly people?
 - C. Take each of the 25 areas required to achieve total surrender
 —cease resistance, abandon oneself and control of your life entirely—and come into complete submission to God!
 - D. Replace "keep your way pure" with what must be surrendered.
 - E. Replace "by living according to the Word of God" with how you will surrender it.
 - F. [Examples]

- 1) "How can I surrender idolatry? By making Yahweh preeminent over all things in my life."
- 2) "How can I surrender offenses? By forgiving those who have harmed me."

2. Write out each of the 25 topics.

- A. Then take one each day and meditate on and journal about what that actually looks like in your life and how you will incorporate this new reality.
- B. If it helps, consider it from this vantage point: "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." Luke 22:42
- C. Y'shua had a true human experience. He would rather not go the way of suffering. But, He drew an instant and clear laser thin line immediately afterwards, bypassing any Job-like; Jonah-like, or Peter-like debate, and going directly to... "Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."
- D. Now engage! Yes, this is not just a 25 day assignment, but a lifetime of discipleship!