MAIN SCRIPTURES

- 1 John 3:2-3
- Luke 14:33
- Romans 9:16
- Luke 22:42
- 1 Timothy 6:6-7
- 2 Corinthians 12:10

NO LONGER MY WILL: COMPLETE SUBMISSION TO GOD

- Surrender My Self
- Surrender My Rights
- Surrender My Ways
- Surrender MY Feelings
- Surrender My Attitude

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES:

"Beloved, now we are children of God. It is not yet revealed what we will be; but we know that when He is revealed, we will be like Him, for we will see Him just as He is. Everyone who has this hope set on Him purifies himself, even as He is pure." 1 John 3:2-3 WEBUS

"So therefore, whoever of you who doesn't **renounce all that he has,** he can't be my disciple." Luke 14:33 WEBUS

"So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who has mercy." Romans 9:16 WEBUS

"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me.

Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." Luke 22:42 WEBUS

"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

"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

Introduction: No Longer My Will: Complete Submission to God

How is it possible to keep your way pure? As with every other virtue, it is attainable only when living by the Word of God! Abiding in His Word helps discern God's will, but that takes more than knowing the written Scriptures. It requires guidance from the Holy Spirit into all truth. An intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit will help you hear God's voice and know His heart. And this at times also necessitates the wise counsel of godly people.

Christians commonly surrender fragments of their lives to God; but Y'shua said, "whoever of you who doesn't renounce all that he has..." We are called to complete unconditional surrender. It is neither easy nor natural; but it is required practice for every disciple. Freedom exists in moments of unconditional surrender: "Not my will, but Your will!" True freedom is to willingly submit that you have no options. When God's way is the only way, then you are truly free!

Coming to this inevitable conclusion is a process. First, there is resistance. You will argue with God and defend your rights to question His ways and justify yourself. Then you will face divine confrontation; you will be chastised and challenged by God. If your way can survive the discipline, God will yield that you have the right to defend yourself and claim your own righteousness. But your way won't succeed! You will ultimately accept that true freedom is found only in total submission to God. Every Christian travels this road to unconditional surrender—but few arrive at the destination.

There will be many things to concede along the way. And we must consider the depths of your ocean of concessions. Let's begin with this word of prayer... "Deep inside me I am very sad. So, I will turn to You, my God, in a word of prayer. I hear Your voice like a waterfall; like the sound of thunder. The water pours over me like waves—so strong that they knock me to the ground. Each day, You show me that You love me and that You are faithful. Each night You give me a song to sing as I pray to the God who lives forever. I know You are my rock, but I often feel like I need to ask, 'Why have You forgotten me? Why must I be so sad? How much longer must I continue to weep?' I ask myself over and over again, 'Why am I so sad and upset?' But I ultimately submit as I am reminded that I must wait patiently for God's help. I know I will praise my God once again because He always shows up to rescue me."

Now for a moment, imagine the prophet Jonah being ordered to preach this truth to Job. "Jonah, go to Job. Show him what it means to surrender everything to Me. Warn him that he should not defend himself nor search for the cause of his suffering. Help him to understand what it means to trust Me and to submit completely, no matter how bad it gets." Jonah would need to apply this truth to his own life if he were to preach it to Job, but history proves he would not be willing!

That was me when God asked me to surrender everything! Like Jonah, I wanted to run in the other direction; I wanted to jump into the ocean; I wanted to do anything but turn the boat around like Jonah should have done, or to surrender like Job ultimately learned. 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 ordered the storm to be still, just as Y'shua taught him a short time earlier when, "Y'shua rebuked the wind and the sea, and there was a great calm."

There is a little bit, or a lot of, Jonah, 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, yet we can't hide from them. 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!"

All that gets exposed by the light must die. We must surrender even the smallest seed of self that remains. "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone. But if it dies, it bears much fruit." You can hang on for dear life, hold onto that single fraying thread that says, "I am not willing to surrender this one thing." 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 for the Good News will save it."

Job concluded: "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, and avoided harming others, 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: "It is not yet revealed what I will be; but I know that when He is revealed, I will be like Him. He who has this hope set on Him purifies himself, even as He is pure, and surrenders to this new reality, 'No longer my will!'"

COMPLETE SUBMISSION TO GOD

- **1. Total Surrender:** cease resistance, abandon oneself and control of one's life entirely; come into complete submission to God.
 - A. Surrender My Self: Surrender that anything is about me!
 - (1) Surrender Idolatry & Practice Preeminence
 - (a) **Surrender Idolatry:** Put nothing before God.
 - "You shall have **no other gods before me**." Exodus
 WEBUS
 - 2. "So therefore, whoever of you who doesn't **renounce** all that he has, he can't be my disciple." Luke 14:33 WEBUS
 - (b) **Practice Preeminence:** Prioritize only what would be pleasing to God.
 - "But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue..." II Peter 1:5 NKJV (See <u>Discipleship Course</u>)
 - (2) Surrender Ego & Practice Preferring Others

- (a) **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
- (b) **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
- (3) Surrender Pride & Practice Meekness
 - (a) **Surrender Pride:** Avoid envy and jealousy. Reject any need for recognition, necessity for credit, or impulse to be the center of attention in order to feel self-gratified.
 - 1. "Pride goes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit before a fall." Proverbs 16:18 WEBUS
 - (b) **Practice Meekness:** access to God's power and authority is good, but it must be practiced with complete humility and exercised with self-control.

- 1. Temper Your 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
- (4) Surrender Comparisons & Practice Celebration
 - (a) **Surrender Comparisons:** Do not base your contentment or satisfaction by equating or contrasting yourself with others. To crave equity, equivalence, or even superiority is unhealthy. 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

- (b) **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
- (5) Surrender Timeframes & Practice Patience
 - (a) **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
 - (b) **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.

 "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

B. Surrender My Rights: Surrender that I have any rights at all!

- (1) Surrender Expectations & Practice Inspiration
 - (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
 - (b) **Practice Inspiration:** Instead of feeling dejected by a disappointing outcome, be encouraged that God's plans and purpose must include something even greater! Let every setback motivate you!
 - "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) Surrender Requirements & Practice Optional
 - (a) **Surrender Requirements:** God is not in debt to you. Make no demands and have no necessary conditions that God must fulfill. Dismiss necessities; reject prerequisites; and resist stipulations.

- 1. "Who has first given to me, that I should repay him?
 Everything under the heavens is mine." Job 41:11
 WEBUS
- (b) **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
- (3) Surrender Agendas & Practice Flexible
 - (a) **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

- (b) **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
- (4) Surrender Entitlements & Practice Gratitude
 - (a) **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
 - (b) **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
- (5) Surrender Explanations & Practice Acceptance

- (a) **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
- (b) **Practice Acceptance:** Welcome what God has for you with joy, even during trials, and even when God has not revealed why.
 - 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
- C. <u>Surrender My Ways: Surrender that I can do it myself, my way, and for me!</u>
 - (1) Surrender Control & Practice Release
 - (a) **Surrender Control:** Don't manipulate others. Don't intervene to influence the course of events or to manage outcomes. Don't assert your authority or will to do whatever it takes to get the results you 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
- (b) **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
- (2) Surrender Capabilities & Practice Support
 - (a) **Surrender Capabilities:** It is a grave error to claim you are able, have the capacity, possess the power, display the potential, or can exercise strength without God.
 - 1. "But he said, "The things which are **impossible with** men are possible with God."" Luke 18:27 WEBUS
 - (b) **Practice Support:** What you cannot do on your own, you can do with God.
 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13 WEBUS
- (3) Surrender Self-Will & Practice Self-Sacrifice
 - (a) **Surrender Self-Will:** Reject any fixed belief that demands things must be your way. Your desires and intentions must align with God's will. To insist on your

- own way, in defiance of God, is rebellion. Do not take deliberate actions to manipulate outcomes.
- 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 lowing of the cattle which I hear mean?" Saul said, "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

- (b) **Practice Self-Sacrifice:** forgo or relinquish your own will and demands in lieu of what God wants.
 - "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me.
 Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." Luke
 22:42 WFBUS
- (4) Surrender Lust & Practice Purity
 - (a) **Surrender Lust:** Don't be ruled by passions driven by the flesh nature, carnal appetites, harmful cravings, self-satisfaction, self-gratification, and self-fulfillment.
 - "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, for its lusts." Romans 13:14
 WEBUS
 - (b) **Practice Purity:** Seek wholeness, a lack of contamination and corruption; be unmixed with and untainted by the carnal world.
 - "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
- (5) Surrender Excuses & Practice Responsibility
 - (a) **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. 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
- (b) **Practice Responsibility:** Be accountable for your own actions and choices; and hold others accountable for their actions and choices.
 - 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

 "Don't be deceived. God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."
 Galatians 6:7 WEBUS

D. <u>Surrender My Feelings: Surrender that I deserve to feel this</u> way!

- (1) Surrender Fear & Practice Freedom
 - (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 WEBUS

- (b) **Practice Freedom:** You have nothing to lose because the worst it can be after this life 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. "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. "For God didn't give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control." 2 Timothy 1:7 WEBUS
 - 3. "When I am afraid, I will put my trust in you." Psalms 56:3 WEBUS
- (2) Surrender Anger & Practice Peace
 - (a) 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
- (b) **Practice Peace:** A tranquil feeling; to live in a state of joy and without disturbance, even during a conflict. A calm and serene feeling of ease.
 - "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
- (3) Surrender Judgment & Practice Honor
 - (a) **Surrender Judgment:** Don't come to a premature or automatic determination, criticism, condemnation, assumption, conclusion, or discrimination against someone or something. **Note:** exercising discernment is not the same as judgmental condemnation.
 - 1. "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

- 2. "For with whatever judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with whatever measure you measure, it will be measured to you." Matthew 7:2 WEBUS
- (b) **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, first compliment them for what deserves praise—that should abort the wrong feeling of judgment!
 - "Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips." Proverbs 27:2 WEBUS
 - "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
- (4) Surrender Offenses & Practice Forgiveness
 - (a) **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 is like cancer to your bones. Let God be the arbiter of equity.

- 1. "Then He said to the disciples, "It is impossible 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 NKIV
- (b) **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.
 - 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
- 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
- (5) Surrender Regrets & Practice Contentment
 - (a) **Surrender Regrets:** Moments of grief, sadness, sorrow, and disappointment are natural experiences, 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

- (b) **Practice Contentment:** Acceptance with joy in any circumstance because of unwavering trust in God. The pursuit of God is all you need to feel satisfied!
 - 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
 - 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

E. Surrender My Attitude: Surrender the poor me attitude!

- (1) Surrender Condemnation & Practice Reconciliation
 - (a) **Surrender Condemnation:** Mistakes are part of the human experience. Conviction is of God and causes one to hate his own sin; that is noble. Repentance removes guilt, shame, and regret. Accusations come from Satan and condemn one for sin; that is demonic and causes guilt, shame, and regret.
 - 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
- (b) **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

- "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
- (2) Surrender Self-Pity & Practice Determination
 - (a) **Surrender Self-Pity:** When things don't go as planned, and those losses 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! Living in 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
 - (b) 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.

- "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."
 Corinthians 12:10 WEBUS
- (3) Surrender Victimhood & Practice Enthusiasm
 - (a) **Surrender Victimhood:** To feel tricked, duped, or helpless is part of life for those who don't know God. But you have experienced what it means to overcome with God, and thus you are no longer a victim.
 - 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
 - (b) **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
- "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57 WEBUS
- (4) Surrender Limitations & Practice Humility
 - (a) **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
- (b) **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
- (5) Surrender Quitting & Practice Perseverance
 - (a) **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
- (b) **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

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)!

- A. Take each of the 25 areas for total surrender—cease resistance, abandon oneself and control of your life entirely —and come into complete submission to God!
- B. Replace "keep your way pure" with what must be surrendered.
- C. Replace "by living according to the Word of God" with how you will surrender it.

D. [Examples]

- 1) "How can I surrender idolatry? By making Yahweh preeminent over all things in my life."
- "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!