



MAIN SCRIPTURES

- Exodus 20:3; Luke 14:33
- 2 Cor. 5:14-15; John 3:30

SURRENDER MY SELF

- Surrender Idolatry
- Practice Preeminence

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES:

“You shall have **no other gods before Me.**” Exodus 20:3

“So therefore, whoever of you who doesn’t **renounce all that he has**, he can’t be My disciple.” Luke 14:33

“He must **increase**, you must **decrease.**” John 3:30

“**For the love of Christ compels us**; because we judge thus: that one died for all, **therefore all died.** He died for all, that **those who live should no longer live to themselves, but to him** who for their sakes died and rose again.” 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

INTRODUCTION:

Cease resistance; abandon control of your life entirely, and come into complete submission to God. That’s what it means to surrender. When Y’shua returns, some of you will be like Him. And for that transformation to occur, it requires that you surrender your idolatry and practice making God preeminent. Pray this without ceasing: “It’s time to perfect the faith I first received from God,

through my Messiah and Savior Y'shua. No longer my will; I must decrease and He must increase!" Whoever won't renounce all that he has and place Y'shua before everything else in his life simply won't become like Him.

SURRENDER THAT ANYTHING IS ABOUT ME!

1. Surrender My Self: Surrender Idolatry & Practice Preeminence

A. Surrender Idolatry

(1) Surrender that anything is about me!

(a) **Surrender Idolatry:** Put nothing before God.

1. "You shall have **no other gods before me.**" Exodus 20:3 WEBUS

a) It's the first commandment! (Repeated in Deut. 5:7)

b) "...we know that *"an idol **has no real existence,**"* and that *"**there is no God but one.**"*" (1 Cor. 8:4)

c) If that is true, than to what must God be referring?

1) *"**You shall not make for yourselves an idol, nor any image of anything that is in the heavens above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: you shall not bow yourself down to them, nor serve them, for I, Yahweh your God, am a jealous God...**"* Exodus 20:4-5 WEBUS

d) Anything that you give preeminence to, above your time, attention, resources, and worship dedicated to Yahweh and His Son Y'shua, is an idol

(b) You shall have no other gods!

1) "lest there should be among you man, woman, family, or tribe whose heart **turns away today from Yahweh our God, to go to serve the gods of those nations**; lest there should be among you a root that produces bitter poison; and it happen, when he hears the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, "**I shall have peace, though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart,**" to destroy the moist with the dry *[as though the drunkard could be included with the sober]*. **Yahweh will not pardon him**, but then Yahweh's anger and his jealousy will smoke against that man, and all the curse that is written in this book will fall on him, and **Yahweh will *blot out his name from under the sky [heaven]."**

Deuteronomy 29:18-20

a) Anything that causes you to turn your attention away from serving Yahweh is idolatry—the serving of other gods.

- b) You who do this, and yet still feel at peace in your won hearts, are at the greatest of risks.
- c) Persistence in doing so indicates really only one thing; your name is not written in His Book of Life.
 - 1) **“And if anyone’s **name was not found written in the book of life**, he was thrown into the **lake of fire**.”* Revelation 20:15 ESV

(c) Put nothing before God!

- 1. “But he said to him, “A certain man made a great supper, and **he invited many people**. He sent out his servant at supper time to tell those who were invited, ‘Come, for everything is ready now.’ **They all as one began to make excuses.** “**The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go and see it.** Please have me excused.’ “Another said, ‘**I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go try them out.** Please have me excused.’ “Another said, ‘**I have married a wife, and therefore I can’t come.**’ “That servant came, and told his Lord these things. **Then the master of the house, being angry,** said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor, maimed, blind, and lame.’ “The servant said, ‘Lord, it is done as you commanded,

and there is still room.' "The Lord said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and **compel them to come in**, that my house may be filled. ***For I tell you that none of those men who were invited will taste of my supper.** For many are called, but few are chosen.'""Luke 14:16-24 WEBUS

a) Put nothing before God!

- 1) Not your business...
- 2) Not your possessions...
- 3) Not your relationships...

b) If your lifestyle is dominated by business, possessions, and relationships, and you have no conviction, it's a possible indicator that you will not be present for the wedding.

- 1) **"Let's rejoice and be exceedingly glad, and let's give the glory to him. For **the wedding of the Lamb has come**, and his wife has made herself ready."*Revelation 19:7 WEBUS

(2) Don't fall in love with the things of the world...

(a) Lust is not of God!

1. **"Don't love the world or the things that are in the world.** If anyone loves the world, the Father's love isn't in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of

the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—
isn't the Father's, but is the world's. The world is
passing away with its lusts, but he who does God's
will remains forever." 1 John 2:15-17 WEBUS

a) **The lust of the flesh:** to prioritize your carnal (sin)
nature.

1) ***"Those who are in the flesh can't please God.
But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if it
is so that the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if
any man doesn't have the Spirit of Christ, he is
not his."*** Romans 8:8-9 WEBUS

b) **The lust of the eyes:** the need to possess what you
see.

1) ***"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore
your eye is sound, your whole body will be full
of light. But if your eye is evil, your whole body
will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that
is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!"***
Matthew 6:22-23 WEBUS

c) **The pride of life:** when your beliefs supersede
God's truth.

- 1) “...***I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart***’—as though the drunkard could be included with the sober.” Deut. 29:19

(b) The Diagnosis of Idolatry!

1. **“Don’t lay up treasures for yourselves on the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consume, and where thieves don’t break through and steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”** Matthew 6:19-21 WEBUS
2. **“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You can’t serve both God and Mammon.”** Matthew 6:24 WEBUS
3. **“But those who are determined to be rich fall into a temptation, a snare, and many foolish and harmful lusts, such as drown men in ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some have been led astray from the faith in their greed, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”** 1 Timothy 6:9-10 WEBUS

4. ““Therefore don’t be anxious, saying, ‘What will we eat?’, ‘What will we drink?’ or, ‘With what will we be clothed?’ **For the Gentiles seek after all these things;** for your heavenly Father knows that you need all **these things.** But seek first God’s Kingdom and his righteousness; and all these things will be given to you as well.” Matthew 6:31-33 WEBUS

- a) Symptoms of Idolatry: where your treasure is, there your heart will be also...
 - 1) **Possessionitis:** obsession with gaining things or a hyper-focus on worldly acquisitions.
 - 2) **Mammon Mania:** the love of money; when wealth becomes an evil influence or false object of worship.
 - 3) **Pagan Anxiety Syndrome:** constant worry and attention over personal satisfaction and needs.

(3) Preventative Medicine

- (a) This should make the medicine go down easier.
 - 1. **“I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live,** but Christ lives in me. That life **which I now live in the flesh,** I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me.” Galatians 2:20 WEBUS

a) Your life is no longer your life! Your old self is dead; your new self is animated by Christ.

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

*Behold, **all things have become new.**” 2*

Corinthians 5:17 WEBUS

2) *“We were buried therefore with him through **baptism into death**, that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in **newness of life.**” Romans*

6:4 WEBUS

(b) Treatment Cost

1. *“Or don’t you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? **You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.** Therefore **glorify God** in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.” 1 Corinthians 6:19-20*

WEBUS

a) The price was more than you can fathom; however the bill was covered.

b) You were bought with the life of Christ

- 1) “And he is **the atoning sacrifice** for our sins, and not for ours only, but also **for the whole world.**”

1 John 2:2 WEBUS

- 2) “whom God sent to be **an atoning sacrifice** through faith in his blood, for a demonstration of his righteousness through **the passing over of prior sins, in God’s forbearance;**” Romans 3:25

WEBUS

- 3) “By this **God’s love was revealed in us**, that God has sent his only born Son into the world **that we might live through him.**” 1 John 4:9 WEBUS

(c) The Cost to You for Eternal Life...

1. “for by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; **it is the gift of God**, not of works, that no one would boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9

WEBUS

- a) To you: Zero! To Christ: Everything!

- 1) “For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man **Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all**, the testimony at the proper time,” 1 Timothy 2:5-6

WEBUS

2) “even as ***the Son of Man came*** not to be served, but to serve, and ***to give his life as a ransom for many.***” Matthew 20:28 WEBUS

(d) The Cost to You to become a Disciple...

1. ““If anyone comes to me, and doesn’t disregard his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, and sisters, yes, **and his own life also, he can’t be my disciple. Whoever doesn’t bear his own cross and come after me, can’t be my disciple.** For which of you, desiring to build a tower, doesn’t first sit down and count the cost, to see if he has enough to complete it? Or perhaps, when he has laid a foundation and isn’t able to finish, everyone who sees begins to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’ Or what king, as he goes to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends an envoy and asks for conditions of peace. **So therefore, whoever of you who doesn’t renounce all that he has, he can’t be my disciple.** “Salt is good, but **if the salt becomes flat and**

tasteless, with what do you season it? **It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile.** It is thrown out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”” Luke

14:26-35 WEBUS

a) To you: All you have!

b) Character traits witnessed in a disciple...

1) **His Word:** *“Jesus therefore said to those Jews who had believed him, **“If you remain in my word, then you are truly my disciples.”** John 8:31 WEBUS*

2) **His Love:** *“**By this** everyone will **know that you are my disciples**, if you have **love** for one another.” John 13:35 WEBUS*

3) **His Fruit:** *“In this my Father is glorified, that you **bear much fruit**; and so **you will be my disciples.**” John 15:8 WEBUS*

(4) Prognosis

(a) Excellent!

1. “What shall we say then? **Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? May it never be! We who died to sin, how could we live in it any longer? Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were**

buried therefore with him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we will also be part of his resurrection; **knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be in bondage to sin.**" Romans 6:1-6 WEBUS

- a) Your old man has been crucified with Christ...
- b) You are no longer in bondage to sin...
- c) How can you who died to sin possibly live in it any longer?
- d) The truth: you don't have to because sin no longer has dominion over you!

- 1) *"Therefore **don't let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.** Also, do not present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but **present yourselves to God as alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.**"* Romans 6:12-13 WEBUS

2) *“He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. **To this end the Son of God was revealed: that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whoever is born of God doesn’t commit sin,** because his seed remains in him, and he can’t sin, because he is born of God.”* 1 John 3:8-9 WEBUS

B. Practice Preeminence

- (1) Make Yahweh preeminent; perfect the faith you first received from God, through your Savior.
 - (a) **Practice Preeminence:** Prioritize only what would be pleasing to God. *“He must **increase**, you must **decrease**.”* (John 3:30)
 1. *“But also for this very reason, **giving all diligence, add to your faith** virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, **and to brotherly kindness love.**”* II Peter 1:5-7 NKJV
 - a) Giving all diligence—add... If God were truly preeminent in your life, you would not be so casual about...

- 1) ...the **practice** of your faith, the ultimate destination of which is love!
 - 2) ...the **price** that Y'shua paid for your redemption.
 - 3) ...your **willingness** to pay for your discipleship.
 - 4) ...your call to **love** like Y'shua loves. *"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."* John 15:13
- (b) If God were truly preeminent in your life... you would be more diligent to recognize your calling ...
1. "Therefore, brothers, **be more diligent to make your calling and election sure.** For if you do these things, you will never stumble." 2 Peter 1:10 WEBUS
 - a) Take your partnership with God seriously!
 - b) You **CANNOT** do God's part and He **WILL NOT** do your part!
 - 1) See [Discipleship Course](#)
 - c) **Human Initiative:** we have a job to do before Y'shua returns...
 - 1) **Y'shua is waiting:** *"but he, when he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God, **from that time waiting until his enemies are made the footstool** of his feet.*

*For by one offering **he has perfected** forever those who are being sanctified.” Hebrews 10:12-14 WEBUS*

- 2) **Creation is waiting:** *“For the **creation waits with eager expectation** for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to vanity, not of its own will, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the **creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of decay into the liberty of the glory of the children of God.**” Romans 8:19-21 WEBUS*
- 3) **The world is waiting:** *“But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and **gave to us the ministry of reconciliation**; namely, that God was in Christ reconciling **the world** to himself, not reckoning to them their trespasses, **and having committed to us the word of reconciliation.** We are **therefore ambassadors on behalf of Christ, as though God were entreating by us** [making His appeal through us]: we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For him who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf, **so that***

in him we might become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

4) **Why are you waiting?** “...*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.*” 1 John 3:2 WEBUS

(c) If God were truly preeminent in your life... you would be more appreciative of the magnitude of your calling and what is available to you if you took your partnership with God seriously...

1. “don’t cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him,** having **the eyes of your hearts enlightened,** that you may know what is **the hope of his calling,** and what are **the riches of the glory of his inheritance** in the saints, and what is **the exceeding greatness of his power toward us who believe,** according to that working of the strength of his might **which he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead** and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule, authority, power, dominion,

and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in that which is to come.” Ephesians 1:16-21

WEBUS

2. “...that through these you may become **partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world by lust.**” 2 Peter 1:4

WEBUS

- a) You have access to God’s power, the power the raised Christ from the grave!
 - b) You can escape the world of lusts and evil desires!
 - c) You have God’s nature inside of you!
 - d) And what is His nature?
- (d) God is love...
1. “He who doesn’t love doesn’t know God, **for God is love. By this God’s love was revealed in us, that God has sent his only born Son** into the world **that we might live through him.** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, **if God loved us in this way, we also ought to love one another.** No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God remains in us, and his love has been perfected in us. By this we know that we remain

in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him, and he in God. **We know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and he who remains in love remains in God,** and God remains in him. **In this, love has been made perfect among us,** that we may have boldness in the day of judgment, because as he is, even so we are in this world. **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. **We love him, because he first loved us. If a man says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar;** for he who doesn't love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? **This commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should also love his brother.”** 1 John 4:8-21 WEBUS

a) God is love and...

- 1) He who doesn't love doesn't know God.
- 2) God's love is revealed in us through what Christ did for us.

- 3) Because God loved us in this way, we also ought to love one another.
- 4) Our love is how God is witnessed in us.
- 5) Loving others is how love is perfected in us.
- 6) He who says, "I love God," and hates his brother is a liar.
- 7) He who doesn't love his brother doesn't love God. *"For **the whole law is fulfilled in one word, in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."*** Galatians 5:14 WEBUS

(2) Love: Mic Drop Moment

(a) The Greatest Commandment is to Love...

1. "One of the scribes came and heard them questioning together, and knowing that he had answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the greatest of all?" Jesus answered, "The greatest is: 'Hear, Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. **You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'** This is the first commandment. The second is like this: '**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'** There is no other commandment greater than these.'" The scribe said

to him, **“Truly, teacher, you have said well** that he is one, and there is none other but he; and to love him with all the heart, with all the understanding, all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbor as himself, is more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, **“You are not far from God’s Kingdom.” No one dared ask him any question after that.**” Mark 12:28-34 WEBUS

a) God’s kingdom is manifest in the earth inside of God’s people, when we love one another like God loves us.

1) *“... “God’s Kingdom doesn’t come with observation; neither will they say, ‘Look, here!’ or, ‘Look, there!’ for behold, **God’s Kingdom is within you.**””* Luke 17:20-21 WEBUS

(3) How’s are we to love one another?

(a) The way God loves us!

1. **“This is my commandment, that you love one another, even as I have loved you.** Greater love has no one than this, that someone **lay down his life for his friends.**” John 15:12-13 WEBUS

a) He willingly volunteered to surrender His life...
there is no greater demonstration of love!

1) *“Therefore the Father loves me, **because I lay down my life**, that I may take it again. **No one takes it away from me, but I lay it down by myself.** I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. I received this commandment from my Father.”* John 10:17-18

WEBUS

b) How might you do the same?

1) *“But **God’s love has most certainly been perfected in whoever** keeps his word. This is how we know that we are in him: **he who says he remains in him ought himself also to walk just like he walked.**”* 1 John 2:5-6 WEBUS

2) Paul says... *“Be imitators of me, **even as I also am of Christ.**”* 1 Corinthians 11:1 WEBUS

(4) Do you want to know how to do that, how to make God and His calling preeminent in your life? Y’shua says...

(a) Go all in! Sell everything, give it to the poor, and
“Follow Me.”

1. “Behold, one came to him and said, “Good teacher,
what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal

life?” He said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but one, that is, God. **But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.**” He said to him, “Which ones?” Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder.’ ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ‘You shall not steal.’ ‘You shall not offer false testimony.’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’ And, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” The young man said to him, **“All these things I have observed from my youth. What do I still lack?”** Jesus said to him, **“If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”** But when the young man heard this, he went away sad, for **he was one who had great possessions.** Jesus said to his disciples, “Most certainly I say to you, **a rich man will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven with difficulty.** Again I tell you, **it is easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye than for a rich man to enter into God’s Kingdom.**” When the disciples heard it, they were exceedingly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” Looking at them, Jesus said, **“With men this**

is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Matthew 19:16-26 WEBUS

- a) If you want to be perfect...
 - 1) **The Question:** *“What good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?”*
 - 2) **The Answer:** *“Keep the commandments.”*
 - 3) **The Follow-up:** *“All these things I have observed from my youth. What do I still lack?”*
 - 4) **The Pivot:** *Jesus said, “If you want to be perfect...”*
- b) Y’shua was more interested in teaching about the Kingdom (how to become more like Him) than just how to get saved!
 - 1) *“He ought himself also to walk just like he walked.”* 1 John 2:6
 - 2) *“We know that when He is revealed, we will be like Him....”* 1 John 3:2
 - 3) **The Cost:** *“Sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then follow Me.”* **Reminder:** *“Whoever doesn’t **renounce all that he has** can’t be My disciple.”*
Luke 14:33

- 4) **The Revelation:** *“He went away sad, for he had great possessions.”* **Reminder:** *“**The love of money** is a root of all kinds of evil. Some have been **led astray from the faith** in their greed, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”* 1 Timothy 6:10
- 5) **The Admonition:** *“A rich man will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven with **difficulty** (easier for a camel to fit through a window in a city’s wall).”*
Y’shua’s Kingdom Pivot: *“...God’s Kingdom doesn’t come with observation ...**God’s Kingdom is within you.**”* Luke 17:20-21
- 6) **The Exhortation:** *“Who can be saved?”* Jesus said, *“**With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.**”*
- 7) **Human Initiative:** *“...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.”* (Philippians 2:12) **Clarity:** *“Whoever doesn’t **renounce all that he has** can’t be My disciple.”* Luke 14:33
- 8) **Peter’s Response:** *“Then Peter answered, “Behold, **we have left everything and followed you.** What then will we have?””* Matthew 19:27

WEBUS

(b) You must be rid of the stronghold of possessions... *“He went away sad, for **he had great possessions.**”*

1. **“No one can serve two masters,** for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. **You can’t serve both God and Mammon.**” Matthew 6:24 WEBUS

a) You will either chase after the things of the world or you will chase after the things of God, but you can’t do both!

1) *“Pagans seek after all these things...”* Mat. 6:32

2. **“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.**

Some have been led astray from the faith in their greed, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows. **But you, man of God, flee these**

things, and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith. Take hold of the eternal life to

which you were called, and you confessed the good confession in the sight of many witnesses.” 1 Timothy 6:10-12 WEBUS

a) Strategy to become freed from Possessionitis!

1) **Practice Righteousness:** *“If you know that he is righteous, you know that **everyone who***

practices righteousness has been born of him.”

1 John 2:29 WEBUS

- 2) **Exercise Godliness:** “...Exercise yourself toward godliness. For bodily exercise has some value, but **godliness has value in all things**, having the **promise of the life which is now and of that which is to come.**” 1 Timothy 4:7-8 WEBUS

- 3) **Live by Faith:** “**Without faith** it is impossible to be well pleasing to him, for he who comes to God must believe that he exists, and that **he is a rewarder of those who seek him.**” Hebrews 11:6 WEBUS

- 4) **Prioritize Love:** “But now faith, hope, and love remain—these three. **The greatest of these is love.**” 1 Corinthians 13:13 WEBUS

- 5) **Benefit from Perseverance:** “Let endurance have its perfect work, **that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.**” James 1:4 WEBUS

- 6) **A Witness of Gentleness:** “Let your **gentleness be known to all men.** The Lord is at hand.” Philippians 4:5 WEBUS

7) **Fight the Good fight of faith by living now like you will live forever!** *“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved in various trials, that the proof of your faith, which is more precious than gold that perishes, even though it is tested by fire, may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ— whom, not having known, you love. In him, though now you don’t see him, yet believing, you rejoice greatly with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory, **receiving [now] the result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.**”* 1 Peter 1:6-9

(c) A fabulous new perspective on your possessions!

1. “All who believed were together, and **had all things in common.** They **sold their possessions** and goods, and **distributed them** to all, according as anyone had need.” Acts 2:44-45 WEBUS
2. “The multitude of those who believed were of one heart and soul. **Not one of them claimed that anything of the things which he possessed was his own,** but **they had all things in common.** With great power, the apostles gave their testimony of the

resurrection of the Lord Jesus. **Great grace was on them all.** For neither was there among them any who lacked, for **as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds** of the things that were sold, and **laid them at the apostles' feet;** and **distribution was made to each, according as anyone had need.**" Acts 4:32-35 WEBUS

- a) What is mine is the Lord's to use for His purpose and how He wishes.
- b) I release my possessions; I end my striving to acquire more! *"Man of God, flee these things!"* (1 Tim. 6:10-12)
- c) Warning: Give from your heart; and be honest about that giving.
 - 1) *"Let each man **give according** as he has determined in his **heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion**, for God loves a cheerful giver."* 2 Corinthians 9:7 WEBUS
 - 2) *"But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, **sold a possession, and kept back part of the price**, his wife also being aware of it, then brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, **"Ananias, why***

*has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the price of the land? While you kept it, didn't it remain your own? After it was sold, wasn't it in your power? **How is it that you have conceived this thing in your heart?** You haven't lied to men, but to God." **Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and died.** Great fear came on all who heard these things. The young men arose and wrapped him up, and they carried him out and buried him. About three hours later, his wife, not knowing what had happened, came in. Peter answered her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much." She said, "Yes, for so much." But Peter asked her, "**How is it that you have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord?** Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." **She fell down immediately at his feet and died.** The young men came in and found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her by her husband. **Great fear came on the whole***

assembly, and on all who heard these things.”

Acts 5:1-11 WEBUS

(d) Instead of a tight grip on my possessions, I will take up my cross...

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.** For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits his own self? For **whoever will be ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed** when he comes in his glory, and the glory of the Father, and of the holy angels.” Luke 9:23-26 WEBUS

2. **““Don’t think that I came to send peace on the earth. I didn’t come to send peace, but a sword.** For I came to set a man at odds against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. A man’s foes will be those of his own household. **He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me isn’t worthy of me.** He who doesn’t **take his cross** and

follow after me isn't worthy of me." Matthew
10:34-38 WEBUS

3. "Then Jesus said to his disciples, "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, and whoever will lose his life for my sake will find it. For **what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life?** Or what will a man give in exchange for his life?" Matthew
16:24-26 WEBUS

4. "At this, **many of his disciples went back and walked no more with him.** Jesus said therefore to the twelve, **"You don't also want to go away, do you?"** Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, **to whom would we go? You have the words of eternal life.** We have come to believe and know that you are the Christ, the Son of the living God."" John 6:66-69 WEBUS

a) Declaration:

- 1) I deny myself to follow Y'shua!
- 2) I offer my life for His purposes!
- 3) I follow Y'shua rather than the world's offer!
- 4) I choose Y'shua even above my own family (or any possession)!

5) I recognize that all the pleasures and accomplishments in this world will never truly satisfy me!

6) When things get hard (and they will), I'm sticking with Y'shua and His calling. *"Where else can I go, He has the words of eternal life."*

(5) Why do I Surrender Myself?

(a) The love of God compels me...

1. **"For the love of Christ compels us;** because we judge thus: that one died for all, therefore all died. He died for all, **that those who live should no longer live to themselves, but to him** who for their sakes died and rose again." 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 WEBUS

a) I no longer live for myself; I now live to love Him!

(b) And this is how I love God!

1. "If you love me, keep my commandments. {23} Jesus answered him, **"If a man loves me, he will keep my word.** My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. **He who doesn't love me doesn't keep my words. The word which you hear isn't mine, but the Father's who sent me."** John 14:15, 23-24 WEBUS

2. “Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God. Whoever loves the Father also loves the child who is born of him. **By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep his commandments. For this is loving God, that we keep his commandments. His commandments are not grievous.**” 1 John 5:1-3 WEBUS
3. “If a man says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, **he is a liar**; for he who doesn’t love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? This commandment we have from him, that **he who loves God should also love his brother.**” 1 John 4:20-21 WEBUS
 - a) I Surrender Idolatry and Practice Preeminence!
 - 1) Y’shua simply reiterated His Father’s message:
“If a man loves Me, he will keep My word.”
 - 2) Love God! Obey His commands! Don’t consider that doing so is difficult!
 - b) You can’t claim to love God & not love His people.
 - 1) ***“Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.”*** Romans 13:8 WEBUS

2) “For **the whole law is fulfilled** in one word, in this: **“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”**

Galatians 5:14 WEBUS

3) “By this **everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.**”

John 13:35 WEBUS

Prayer: I Surrender my Idolatry (loving my self & my things) and Practice Preeminence (loving my God & His children)!

ASSIGNMENT #1

1. Pray about and meditate on these Scriptures:

A. “For **the word of God** is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and **is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart. There is no creature that is hidden from his sight, but all things are naked and laid open before the eyes of him to whom we must give an account.**” Hebrews 4:12-13 WEBUS

B. “But there is **nothing covered up that will not be revealed,** nor hidden that will not be known.” Luke 12:2 WEBUS

C. “For **God will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether it is good, or whether it is evil.**”

Ecclesiastes 12:14 WEBUS

- D. *“For **no one can lay any other foundation** than that which **has been laid, which is Jesus Christ.** But if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, or straw, **each man’s work will be revealed. For the Day will declare it, because it is revealed in fire;** and the fire itself will test what sort of work each man’s work is.” 1 Corinthians 3:11-13 WEBUS*
- E. *“For the time has come for **judgment** to begin with the household of God. If it **begins first with us,** what will happen to those who don’t obey the Good News of God?” 1 Peter 4:17 WEBUS*

2. Surrender Idolatry

- A. Search your heart humbly and honestly for all things that you make a priority over your relationship with God.
- 1) *“for where your treasure is, **there your heart will be also.**”*
Matthew 6:21 WEBUS

3. Practice Preeminence

- A. List each idol and how you plan to bring it into submission to the Lord. Who will hold you accountable?
- 1) *“To him therefore **who knows to do good and doesn’t do it, to him it is sin.**” James 4:17 WEBUS*