

Week Ten: “The Heart of Worship”

Day One: “Surrender”

Read: Romans 12:1-2 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 1295)

Read: *Purpose-Driven Life* p. 77 and top of page 79 (up to “Admitting our Limitations”)

Reflect: What does trust have to do with surrender?

Dig: In scripture, look up these reasons for trusting God.

Summarize each truth as one sentence:

Psalm 145:9

Psalm 139:3

Matthew 10:30

I Timothy 6:17b

Jeremiah 29:11

Psalm 86:5

Psalm 145:8

How is worship described in Romans 12:1-2?

What bodily acts are encouraged in the Bible as acts of worship and surrender?

See Psalm 95:1-6 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 654) for a biblical answer.

Apply: What particular truth do you need to affirm in order to surrender to God more fully?

What bodily act of worship is God calling you to express?

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Day Two: **“Admitting our Limitations”**

Read: Genesis 32:22-32 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 39)

Read: *Purpose-Driven Life* section entitled “Admitting our Limitations.” (p. 79)

Reflect: React to this statement as it applies to you: “The reason why many are still troubled, still seeking, still making little forward progress is because they haven’t yet come to the end of themselves. We’re still trying to give orders, and interfering with God’s work within us.”

Dig: As you think about Genesis 32:22-32, answer these questions: Who initiated this wrestling match? See verse 24.

Since “Jacob” means “he deceives” and “Israel” means “struggles with God,” what did this name change have to do with surrender?

Compare Israel’s lifelong limp (see verse 31) with Paul’s experience in II Corinthians 12:7-9 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 1340). What do you learn about trust and surrender?

Apply: What area of life or control issue do you have that is causing you to wrestle with God? Commit that concern to God in prayer – a surrender prayer.

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Day Three: “What It Means to Surrender”

Read: Luke 5:1-11 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 1159)

Read: *Purpose- Driven Life* section entitled “What it Means to Surrender.” (pp. 80-81)

Reflect: Reflect on this statement by C.S. Lewis: “The more we let God take us over, the more truly ourselves we become-because he made us. He invented all the different people that you and I were intended to be...it is when I turn to Christ, when I give myself to his personality, that I begin to have a real personality of my own.”

Dig: How do you see Peter’s three- step surrender to Christ in this passage from Luke?
...in his words “..but because you say so” (verse 5)

...in his realization about himself (verse 8)

...in his reception of his life’s assignment (verses 10-11)

What does the commitment expressed in verse 11 have to do with Peter’s statement in verse 5?

Apply: Peter “left everything” to find his life’s purpose. What do you need to leave to find your purpose in Christ?

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Day Four: **“The Best of Way to Live”**

Read: Romans 6:17-23 (Freedom in Christ Bible p. 1287)

Read: *Purpose- Driven Life* page 82-close of chapter

Reflect: What do you think the difference is between the way our culture defines freedom and the way the Bible define freedom?

Dig: What two slaveries are expressed in this passage?

What do you offer your body to in each case? See verses 19-21.

Which service pays “wages”?

What are those “wages”?

Which is based instead on free gifts?

What does verse 17 tell you about how we grow in being slaves to righteousness?

Apply: Re-read the last three paragraphs of this chapter. Will you also sign up today for lifelong obedience to Jesus? If so, actually sign your name at the bottom of this page: “From this day forward, I am a slave of Jesus Christ.” Signed:

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Day Five: “Lectio Divina”

Using the “Lectio Divina” method of Bible study (see page 3 of this booklet), meditate on this scripture:

“Surrender your whole being to him to be used for righteous purposes.”

Romans 6:13b (TEV)

Lectio divina (a Latin expression which means Sacred reading) is done in three stages.

- reading: you read the passage slowly and reverentially, allowing the words to sink into your consciousness: after you have memorized the text, write down one word which strikes you and draws your attention and note why you chose that word.
- meditation: you allow the passage to stir up memories within you, so that you recognize in it your own experience or that of people who have touched your life: write down memories of events or conversations or other scripture passages.
- prayer: you allow the meditation to lead you to prayer – thanksgiving, humility and petition. Write out a prayer based on the passage.

