

All In Surrender

MARCH 19, 2023

There are times when we're going to be challenged or tested--and in those moments, we'll need the faith to surrender to God and trust what he has in store for us.

MESSAGE NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- Context matters--the Bible is a collection of letters, narratives, and poems written, and the genre of the text matters.
 - There's a specific author and audience for each book of the Bible. When the words were penned, God was speaking through specific people to certain people.
 - Cultural context matters--the Bible was written in and about very different times and places from our own. We need to first understand the world of that day.
 - The main message of the entire Bible is that Jesus is God's Son who offers us forgiveness and eternal life through faith in Him.
 - In the story of Abraham in Genesis 22, there's a simple principle to keep in mind--God is God, and we are not.
 - God calls us to complete surrender.
 - Then Jesus told His disciples, "If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. | Matthew 16, vv.24-25
 - I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. | Galatians 2, v.20
 - Trusting God means submitting to his word.
 - Surrendering to God is a daily process, a humility that seeks to understand his will and then continually prays for the power and grace to live it out.
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What things in your life are difficult to see as God's and not ultimately yours?
2. Describe a major sacrifice you have made in your life for a cause or for a person. What was it that compelled you to make that sacrifice?
3. When we ask Jesus to forgive our sins and be the leader of our lives, it means that we surrender every area of our lives to him, including our finances and our time. If someone who didn't know you looked at how you manage your finances and your time, would they conclude that you're fully surrendered to Jesus? Why or why not?
4. What is a practical step you could take towards more complete surrender in an area of your life? If you can't think of something now, make it a point to think and pray about that this week.