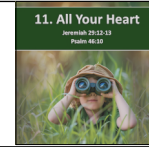


Surrender — Day 1



🎵 Listen to
Scripture Song:



Today's Promise (#11) — KJV

Jeremiah 29:12–13 "Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

Psalms 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

💖 Apply the Promise!

God promises that when you truly seek Him, you will find Him. Give Him your whole heart, be still before Him, and trust that He will guide you and bring peace to your heart.

📖 Bible Story (Mark 7 & Matt. 15)

Jesus traveled a long, dusty road to the borders of Tyre and Sidon. He was not just looking for a quiet place away from the crowds—He knew a desperate mother was there waiting for Him. Her young daughter was being cruelly tormented by an evil spirit day and night. Though she was a Gentile from a faraway land—someone many would ignore—she came running after Jesus, crying out and begging for mercy. She had likely tried everything, but nothing had helped. Jesus was her only hope.

At first, it seemed like Jesus did not answer her. The disciples grew annoyed and asked Him to send her away. When He finally spoke, His words sounded harsh, saying it was not right to take the children's bread and give it to dogs. But Jesus was not trying to hurt her—He was testing her faith and revealing what was in her heart.

The woman did not become offended or turn away. Instead, she humbled herself and fell at His feet. She answered, "Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." She was not demanding anything—she simply trusted Him completely. Her heart was fully surrendered. She believed that even the smallest touch of His mercy was enough.

Jesus was delighted by her faith. He said, "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt." At that very moment, her daughter was healed. This woman shows us that when we truly seek God with all our heart and surrender to Him, we will find Him—and His power will work in our lives.

☀️ True Story

In 2005, when Maggie Doyme finished high school, she traveled to the mountainous country of Nepal before starting college. But instead of just seeing the beautiful sights, she saw something that broke her heart.

Because of a long conflict in the country, many children had no parents or homes. One day, Maggie saw a six-year-old girl sitting in a dry riverbed. The little girl was breaking hard stones in the hot sun all day long just to earn a few pennies for food.

Maggie could not just walk away. She did not have millions of dollars, but she did have five thousand dollars she had carefully saved from years of babysitting back in America. Maggie realized she had a big decision to make. She could hold tightly to her saved money and her college plans, or she could open her hands and surrender her future to help these children.

Maggie chose to surrender. She called her parents and asked them to send every single penny she had ever saved. She used all her money to buy land and build a safe, loving home for the orphans.

She did not just build the house and leave; she moved in! She became a mother to dozens of children and built a school that helps hundreds of kids.

Maggie's story reminds us that surrender means opening our hands to God. When we give Him our plans, our gifts, and what we have, He can use them to bless others in ways we never imagined.

💬 Discussion Questions:

- Why did Jesus seem cold to the woman at first, even though His heart was full of compassion?
- What was the little six-year-old girl doing in the dry riverbed to earn food?
- Think about a time you tried to fix a big problem all by yourself and felt worried or exhausted. How could surrendering it to God have helped your heart feel better?

🎨 Activity:

Give children small pebbles to squeeze tightly in their fists. Next, offer a favorite treat, but say they must take it without dropping the pebbles. They will realize it is impossible! Explain that when we hold tightly to our pride or worries, our hands are too full to receive what God has for us. True surrender means opening our hands, letting go of our own plans, and making room to receive God's very best today.

Surrender — Day 2



🎵 Listen to
Scripture Song:



Today's Promise (#12) — KJV

Matthew 6:24 "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

❤️ Apply the Promise!

God wants to be the only King of your heart. When we try to love God and the things of this world at the same time, our hearts become divided, but true surrender means letting go of everything else to follow Him completely.

📖 Bible Story (Mark 10 & Matt. 19)

A wealthy young ruler came running down the dusty road and fell on his knees before Jesus. He was a good man who tried very hard to do the right things. He asked, "Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" He proudly explained that he had obeyed all the commandments since he was a little boy. From the outside, he looked like the perfect follower of God. He had power, fine clothes, and a life of comfort, but inside his heart, he knew something important was missing. He was used to buying whatever he wanted, but he knew he could not buy his way into heaven.

But Jesus loved him and knew exactly what was sitting on the throne of the young ruler's heart. Jesus told the young man he was missing just one thing. He asked him to go sell everything he owned, give to the poor, and come follow Him. Jesus wasn't just asking for his money; He was asking for total heart surrender. He wanted the young man to let go of his earthly security. Jesus wanted to give him something much better than gold, but the young man's hands were too full of the world to receive it.

The young ruler's face fell, and sadness washed over him. He suddenly had to make a choice between his two masters. He wanted eternal life, but he loved his beautiful home and his secure wealth much more than he loved the idea of following Jesus into the unknown. Slowly, he stood up and walked away full of sorrow, unwilling to drop the heavy bags of gold in his heart. He proved that you cannot hold onto the treasures of this world and hold onto Jesus at the same time.

☀️ True Story

Jim Elliot was a handsome, popular college student in America who could have chosen any career. He was a champion wrestler and a great speaker. Everyone thought he would become a famous pastor with a big, comfortable church and a safe life.

But as Jim read his Bible, his heart was stirred by the people in far-off jungles who had never heard of Jesus. He knew he couldn't serve his own comfortable dreams and serve God at the same time. He realized that a safe, easy life was not what the Lord was asking him to choose.

Jim made a radical choice to fully surrender his future to God. He packed up his belongings, left the safety of America, and traveled deep into the dangerous, snake-filled jungles of Ecuador. He wanted to reach a fierce, isolated tribe. It was incredibly difficult work. He spent years living in a tiny tent, battling insects, and enduring terrible weather. Jim famously wrote in his journal, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

He was willing to give up his earthly comfort because he knew that true treasure is only found in heaven.

Unlike the rich young ruler, Jim refused to hold onto the things of this world. Jim ultimately surrendered his very life in the jungle while trying to share God's love. But his incredible surrender was not a failure. Because of his sacrifice, his family stayed to love the tribe, and those same people soon gave their hearts to Jesus!

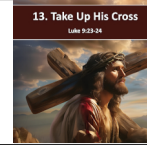
💬 Discussion Questions:

- Why did the rich young ruler walk away from Jesus full of sorrow?
- What did Jim Elliot mean when he said, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose"?
- How does holding tightly to the things of this world keep us from experiencing God's best for our lives?

🎬 Activity:

Give each child a large, heavy book to hold in each hand to represent earthly treasures. Toss a balloon into the air and tell them they must keep it from touching the ground—but they cannot drop the books! They will quickly realize it is impossible. Explain that we cannot hold tightly to the world and follow Jesus at the same time. We must be willing to drop our heavy earthly treasures to catch His heavenly gifts!

Surrender — Day 3



🎵 Listen to
Scripture Song:



Today's Promise (#13) — KJV

Luke 9:23–24 "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."

♥ Apply the Promise!

*Following Jesus means we must be willing to let go of
our own selfish plans and cheerfully give Him
everything we have.*

📖 Bible Story (Luke 5 & Matt. 4, 9)

Jesus was walking along the sandy shore of the Sea of Galilee. He saw two brothers named Peter and Andrew. They were hard at work casting their nets into the water. Catching fish was their job, and it was the only life they had ever known.

Jesus looked right at them and gave them a life-changing invitation. He called out, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Peter and Andrew did not ask for a few days to think about it. The Bible says they immediately dropped their nets right there on the beach and followed Him. Walking a little further, Jesus saw two more brothers, James and John. They were sitting in a boat with their father, carefully sewing up torn fishing nets.

When Jesus called them, they made the exact same choice. They left their valuable boat, their business, and their earthly father to follow Jesus. Their father Zebedee was not left all alone, because the Bible says he stayed in the boat with his hired servants. Still, walking away from the only secure, familiar life those brothers had ever known was an incredible step of faith. They did not cling to their comfortable life. They trusted that Jesus had a much greater plan for them.

Jesus was not just asking them to take a short walk. He was asking them to surrender their entire future. Taking up your cross means being willing to let go of your own plans. These disciples gave up catching fish to help rescue the hearts of people. They showed that when you cheerfully leave your own way behind, Jesus will give you a beautiful new purpose!

☀ True Story

In 1998, when a young boy named Ryan Hreljac was just six years old, he learned that many children in Africa did not have clean water to drink. Drinking dirty water was making them terribly sick. Ryan's heart was deeply moved, and he decided right then that he needed to help.

He asked his parents for money, but they told him he would have to earn it himself. So instead of playing outside or spending his allowance on new toys, Ryan started doing extra chores. He chose to give up his free time to sweep, vacuum, and wash windows.

He worked hard for months and finally saved seventy dollars. But when he proudly took his money to a charity, they gently told him a real well actually cost two thousand dollars!

Most children would have given up and spent the money on themselves. But Ryan had fully surrendered his heart to this calling. He did not complain about the heavy burden. He just kept working, doing more chores, and asking his community to join him. He stood up in front of his classmates and even spoke to large groups of adults to ask for their help.

Because Ryan was willing to leave his own selfish plans behind, he eventually raised the full amount! A clean well was built next to a primary school in Uganda.

Ryan's story reminds us that surrender means giving God what we have, even if it seems small. When we let go of selfish plans and choose to serve, God can use our time, work, and gifts to bless others.

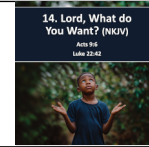
💬 Discussion Questions:

- What did Peter and Andrew leave behind on the beach to follow Jesus?
- When Ryan found out the well cost two thousand dollars instead of seventy, what did he choose to do?
- Jesus said we must "take up our cross daily." What is one small thing you can leave behind today (like wanting your own way, or your free time) to show you are following Him?

🎨 Activity:

Give each child a cup full of water, representing their heart, and a handful of pebbles, representing selfish desires. Have them drop the pebbles in one by one. As the pebbles go in, the water spills out and is lost. Explain that our hearts cannot be full of Jesus and full of our own selfish plans at the same time. To keep God's living water, we must cheerfully choose to leave those heavy pebbles behind!

Surrender — Day 4



🎵 Listen to
Scripture Song:



Today's Promise (#14) — KJV

Acts 9:6 "...Lord, what do You want me to do?"

Luke 22:42 "saying, 'Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.'"

💖 Apply the Promise!

When we face hard choices, true heart surrender means praying like Jesus did. We must stop demanding our own way and humbly say, "Lord, whatever You want, I will do."

📖 Bible Story (Matt. 26 & Luke 22)

Jesus walked quietly into a garden called Gethsemane on the night before He was going to die. On the cross. The air was still, but His heart was heavy. He knew the terrible suffering that was coming—not just the pain of the cross, but the weight of the sins of the whole world. He took a few of His closest disciples with Him and asked them to watch and pray, then He went a little farther alone.

In the quiet darkness, Jesus fell to the ground and prayed. His sorrow was so deep that it felt like it might overwhelm Him. He cried out to His Father, knowing that nothing was impossible for God. He asked if there was any other way to save the world, any way the suffering could pass from Him.

But then Jesus made the most important choice of all. Even in His deep anguish, He surrendered His will completely to God. He prayed, "Nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt." He chose to trust His Father fully, even when the path ahead was painful and hard.

An angel came and strengthened Him, but the struggle was real. Jesus prayed again and again, each time choosing to surrender. When He rose from prayer, His heart was settled. He was ready to obey, no matter the cost.

Jesus showed us what true surrender looks like. It is not always easy, and it does not mean we do not feel afraid. But it means we choose God's will above our own. When we give Him our whole heart, He gives us strength to follow Him, even through the hardest moments.

☀️ True Story

In the summer of 2015, a young boy named Lucas Hobbs became very sick with cancer. He had to spend a long time in the hospital, undergoing difficult treatments and resting in his bed. Because he had been through such a hard time, a special group called the Make-A-Wish Foundation visited him. They promised to give Lucas absolutely anything he wanted!

Many children might have asked for a big trip, a room full of toys, or something exciting just for themselves. Lucas could have done that too. After all he had suffered, no one would have blamed him for choosing something fun.

But Lucas decided to surrender his own desires. He thought about the kind doctors, the hardworking nurses, and the sick kids still in the hospital. Instead of using the wish on himself, he chose to give it away.

Lucas asked for a food truck! Make-A-Wish actually helped him organize an entire fleet of them. Instead of resting in bed, Lucas put on a real white chef's coat. He cheerfully handed out thousands of hot meals to the hospital workers, the police officers, and the homeless people in his city. Even though he was still battling his own illness, seeing the huge, grateful smiles on everyone's faces made him so much happier than any giant theme park vacation ever could.

Lucas had the chance to get his own way, but he surrendered his wish to bless other people instead. When we let go of having everything our own way, He can use our lives to bring love, help, and joy to others.

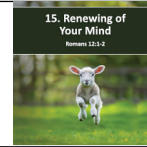
💬 Discussion Questions:

- What did Jesus say to His Father to show that He was completely surrendering His own will?
- What kind of coat did Lucas put on when he handed out food from his pizza truck?
- Is there a time when you wanted your own way very badly, but you knew God wanted you to do something else? How can you pray like Jesus did?

🎬 Activity:

Give the child a toy steering wheel or a paper plate. Let them "drive" around the room exactly how they want. Then, tell them it is time to surrender. Have them hand the wheel to you and close their eyes while you gently guide them by the shoulders. Explain that surrender means letting God drive our lives. We must completely trust His perfect directions, even when we cannot see the road ahead!

Surrender — Day 5



🎵 Listen to
Scripture Song:



Today's Promise (#15) — KJV

Romans 12:1–2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

💖 Apply the Promise!

God calls you to give Him your whole life. When you surrender your heart and choose His way, He will change your thinking, guide your choices, and help you live in His good and perfect will.

📖 Bible Story (Judges 6)

For many years, the Israelites had turned away from God, and times were very hard. A fierce enemy army called the Midianites constantly invaded their land. They stole all of Israel's food and animals, leaving the people starving, terrified, and hiding in caves. One day, a man named Gideon was hiding inside a winepress just to thresh a little bit of wheat in secret. Suddenly, the Angel of the Lord appeared and told Gideon that God had chosen him to save Israel!

But before Gideon could fight the enemy army outside, he had to deal with the spiritual enemy right in his own backyard. His father and the townspeople had built altars to false gods named Baal and Asherah. It would have been easier to leave the idols alone, stay quiet, and demand his own safe way of doing things.

God gave Gideon a very clear, command: he must tear down his father's altar, chop down the wooden image, and build a proper altar to the one true Lord. This was a test of complete heart surrender. Gideon had to let go of his deep fear of what other people thought and choose to obey God's instructions instead of following the crowd. He realized that he could not hold onto false idols and still expect God's blessing.

Even though he was afraid, Gideon surrendered to God's perfect will. He took ten of his servants and tore the idols down in the dark of night. When the townspeople woke up and saw the ruined altar, they were furious and demanded his life! But God protected him. Gideon's story reminds us that surrender means letting go of fear, idols, and our own safe way, so we can obey God with our whole heart.

☀️ True Story

In the year 2014, a nine-year-old boy named Hector Montoya was living in Texas. For many months, he had been carefully saving his allowance and collecting coins in a jar. His goal was to save three hundred dollars so he could buy a brand-new PlayStation 4 video game console. He was incredibly excited to finally buy something fun for himself.

But one evening, Hector heard a very sad story on the local news. A mother and her young child had passed away in a house fire in a nearby city. The news reporter explained that the family did not have a working smoke detector to wake them up when the fire started.

Hector's heart was deeply moved, and he could not stop thinking about that family. He had an important choice to make. He could keep all his money to buy the game he had worked so hard for, or he could use his savings to help protect other people. Hector chose to surrender his own plans.

He took his entire three hundred dollars to the store and bought over one hundred smoke detectors! He did not stop there. With the help of the local fire department, Hector walked through his community and gave the detectors to elderly neighbors and families who could not afford them.

Hector had the perfect chance to get exactly what he wanted, but he cheerfully gave up his own comfort. Hector's story reminds us that surrender does not always mean doing something huge. Sometimes it means opening our hands, giving up something we wanted, and letting God use what we have to help someone else.

💬 Discussion Questions:

- What did Gideon have to tear down before God could use him to fight the Midianite army?
- What did Hector Montoya buy with the money he had saved for a video game console?
- An "idol" isn't always a statue; it can be anything we love more than God (like a screen, a hobby, or our own pride). What is an "idol" that kids today might need to tear down?

🎬 Activity:

Have the children use plastic building blocks or empty cardboard boxes to build a tall tower. Use a piece of masking tape to label the tower with things that can become "idols" when we want our own way (like "Pride," "Video Games," or "Selfishness"). Read Romans 12:2 aloud. Then, tell them to completely surrender their hearts to God and let them excitedly crash the tower to the ground! Explain that we must tear down anything that stands between us and Jesus.