

- **QUOTE:** *To surrender to God is to give up all push back against His RULE, His WAY, His PLAN, His PROCESS, and His TIMING.*
- **I Peter 5:6 AMP** - *Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God [set aside self-righteous pride], so that He may exalt you [to a place of honor in His service] at the appropriate time,*
- God's hand is mighty. It's so mighty that eventually every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord. But...!
- **QUOTE:** *The mighty hand of God isn't a fist shaking against us. The mighty hand of God is open, nail-scarred, and extending from arms so great that they stretched wide enough to forgive every sin and save the whole world!*
- Those that breathe their last breath still insistent on being God's enemy, despite His constant attempts to win their hearts, they will bow in fear on Judgment Day. But those of us that submit to Jesus willingly despite our many flaws & failings - we don't bow in terror; we surrender in trust.

WEEK #2 – HOW TO SURRENDER

- *Surrender – to submit; to succumb; to cease resistance.*
- The dictionary also defines “surrender” as: *to yield to the power, control, or possession of another*
- Sometimes surrender feels scary Surrender is particularly difficult if you test positive for “controlla-virus” (i.e. you identify as a control-freak!)
- **Mark 10:15 NIV** - *Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.*
- **QUOTE:** *You cannot have Christ and have control*

- The reason little children don't struggle as much with yielding control is that they are more trusting. Until they are taught to fear by bad experiences, little children are completely trusting.
- **Proverbs 3:5-7 AMP** - *Trust in and rely confidently on the LORD with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight or understanding. In all your ways know and acknowledge and recognize Him, And He will make your paths straight and smooth [removing obstacles that block your way]. Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD [with reverent awe and obedience] and turn [entirely] away from evil.*
- From Proverbs 3:5-7, we can find 3 important steps for surrendering to God:

1. Choose A Side

- **Proverbs 3:7b AMP** - *Fear the LORD [with reverent awe and obedience] and turn [entirely] away from evil.*
- To surrender to God means deciding once and for all that you play for His team, and His team alone.
- **James 4:4-10 MSG** - You're cheating on God. If all you want is your own way, flirting with the world every chance you get, you end up enemies of God and his way. And do you suppose God doesn't care? The proverb has it that "he's a fiercely jealous lover." And what he gives in love is far better than anything else you'll find. It's common knowledge that "God goes against the willful proud; God gives grace to the willing humble." 7-10 So let God work his will in you. Yell a loud no to the Devil and watch him make himself scarce. Say a quiet yes to God and he'll be there in no time. Quit dabbling in sin. Purify your inner life. Quit playing the field. Hit bottom, and cry your eyes out. The fun and games are over. Get serious.

really serious. Get down on your knees before the Master; it's the only way you'll get on your feet.

- Quit playing the field & get serious about this relationship (KNOW GOD),
- Quit dabbling in sin & purify your inner life (FIND FREEDOM),
- Let God work His will in you (DISCOVER PURPOSE & MAKE DIFFERENCE).

2. Get To Know Him

- **Proverbs 3:6 AMP** - *In all your ways know and acknowledge and recognize Him, And He will make your paths straight and smooth [removing obstacles that block your way].*
- Once we give our lives to Jesus, we obviously need to get to know Him. But for those that have been committed to Christ for years, please don't assume that you've already checked this box.
- "Knowing God" is not something we do once, check it off the list, and move on to the next thing.
- **QUOTE:** *Surrendering to God is a lifelong, progressive journey to know God, find freedom, discover purpose, & make a difference.*
- Like any relationship, the better you know Him, the more you'll trust Him.
- Practical application – Prioritize spending quality time with God every day (i.e. schedule it, set an alarm, remove distractions)

3. Pray First

- **Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT** - *Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. 6 Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.*

- **1 Corinthians 6:19b-20 NLT** - ...*You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.*