

Delight in the Lord

Surrender and throw your lot in with Him

What Does it Mean to Surrender?

<https://www.allaboutfollowingjesus.org/surrender-to-god.htm>

“Surrender means to yield ownership, to relinquish control over what we consider ours: our property, our time, our "rights." When we surrender to God, we are simply acknowledging that what we "own" actually belongs to Him. He is the giver of all good things. We are responsible to care for what God has given us, as stewards of His property, but by surrendering to God, we admit that He is ultimately in control of everything, including our present circumstances. Surrendering to God helps us to let go of whatever has been holding us back from God's best for our lives. By surrendering to God, we let go of whatever has kept us from wanting God's ways first.”

To surrender to God is to give up living in your own strength

2 Corinthians 1:8-11

- Paul was a man of great strength and human ability.
- Paul went through Asia Minor in his second mission trip. This means he learnt this lesson about 16 years after being saved. He had already been actively preaching the gospel for many years.
- It seems it took facing death itself for Paul to fully surrender his own strength and trust only in God.
- Have you surrendered or are you still holding on to some of your own ability and strength?

Jeremiah 17:5-8 (NLT)

- Can you see areas in your life where it looks more like a stunted shrub in the desert? - Maybe you are relying on your own strength in this area.
- God is a rich blessing to those who trust in Him. Like a tree near a river that never runs dry, even in times of drought (hardship) the leaves are still green and fresh. This is where I choose to live. What does it take to stay in this place?

To surrender to God is to live as a slave of God's - to do it His way.

1 Corinthians 9:19-27

- Paul a slave of all people.
- Paul is consumed by, saturated in God's heart for people and as a result gives up his freedom to serve others.
- You test a tree by its fruit. It's worth having a look at the fruit you are producing. However as you look at your fruit I ask that you do this in a way that sets you free to produce godly fruit and does not bring condemnation.

To surrender to God is to give your body as a living sacrifice

Romans 12:1-3

- How do you do this? How do you give your body to God?
- Does God mean your actual body?
- To serve others is a great way to remain surrendered to God. The very act of loving service helps keep you humble and surrendered.

To surrender to God is to be fully satisfied in God and what He chooses for you.

Philippians 4:10-14

- Paul learnt to be satisfied even when he had an empty stomach.
- When we are delighting in God we are fully satisfied in Him and what He chooses for our lives. We let Him call the shots in our everyday lives and we love it!

What Stops Me?

Here are some ideas about what stops people from surrendering to God. Maybe you can relate to some of them. Maybe you have something of your own you'd like to discuss with the group.

- I'm not good enough - 1 Corinthians 1:26-29
- Unworthiness
- I don't know enough.
- I'm too young - I'm too old.
- I've tried but I keep failing.
- Stubborn pride.

You cannot out give God

Matthew 19:29 (NLT)

And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or property, for my sake, will receive a hundred times as much in return and will inherit eternal life.

- Jesus tells us that to know God the Father is eternal life.