


A Call to Surrender | Application

 **READ: Romans 6:16-18**


Sometimes people find it difficult to fully surrender to the Lord Jesus, yielding all authority to Him. What they may not realize is that, by failing to surrender to Jesus, they are yielding to the world and becoming subject to its authority.


 **Romans 8:5-8**

TRUE | FALSE: A person is led by the one to whom he or she is yielded.


 **WRITE:** What words or phrases would you use to describe the mindset of a person who is yielded to Jesus?


 **Romans 8:9-14**


 How would you explain what it means that we each have “a debt” or “an obligation” to live by the Spirit of the living God?

 According to verse 14, what is the evidence, or proof, that a person is a son or daughter of God?


Consider for yourself the drawbacks of allowing Jesus to have complete control of one’s life.


 **FISHING FOR MEN:** You may want to ask the person you are discipling to consider the disadvantages of giving God control. Help them to understand that one who gives God full control should no longer demand or pursue living according to their own selfish way.

 **ACTION:** Consider for yourself the benefits of completely surrendering one’s life to Jesus, choosing to live under the full control of the Holy Spirit.

 You may also want to ask the person you are mentoring to consider the benefits of complete surrender.

A person who chooses to live surrendered to the authority of Jesus Christ will walk according to the desires of the Spirit rather than the flesh. They will experience freedom from temptation and sin, develop Christ-like character, and pursue a lifestyle that is pleasing to God, which will result in a life of peace.

 **REMEMBER:** Regardless of the biblical truth being taught, obedience always involves surrender to the Lordship of Christ. To live in a continuous state of surrender is a developed discipline. As you become increasingly surrendered to His Lordship, it will be easier for you to show others what genuine surrender looks like.

 With this in mind, you may want to take the time to consider the following definitions:

- **Commitment** — an agreement or pledge to do something; engaging oneself; involving.
- **Surrender** — the act of giving up a position; to cease resistance; yield; submit.

 How would you explain to someone the difference between commitment and surrender?

If we are not careful, we can become committed to a place or activity without ever becoming fully surrendered to the person of Jesus Christ. Please be aware that commitment, absent of lordship and purpose, can often lead to busyness.

✦ The following exercise will help you to further evaluate your personal level of surrender to the Lord Jesus and better equip you to train others to do the same.

1. Think about words that you would use to describe various areas of your life (family, job, church, friends, school, etc.)
2. Write these words on a piece of paper in the order in which you would prioritize them.
3. Then, consider how subtle the world's way of thinking can be. For instance, the world would tell us that in order to maintain happiness in our lives we need to keep our priorities in order. So, using this theory, if our job currently has a higher priority than our family, moving our family into a higher position of priority would make them and us happier. But that isn't necessarily true, especially for the long term.
4. Now, take your piece of paper and write the words again on an even line from left to right.
5. Write the word "God" over each heading. This represents the fact that God desires to have authority over everything in our lives—the number one priority in each and everything we do.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Matthew 22:37

God's first and greatest commandment should be first priority in the lives of His followers. In order to love the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind, one must first be consumed by Him. God asks us to love Him with our entire being so that, in turn, He will teach us to love the world as He does.

✦ With these verses in mind, follow the steps below, resisting the urge to get in a hurry or merely going through the motions to get it completed. Instead, use it as a tool to allow God to do the thorough work He so desires.

1. Take each word used to describe the various areas of your life.
2. Under each word be as specific as possible with the people and things that belong there. For instance, under *family* you may want to list each family member by name, as well as personal responsibilities involved with your household. Under the heading of *job*, you may want to list the name of your boss, co-workers, and specific duties required of you.
3. Do the same until all lists are complete.
4. Then, ask yourself the following questions for each item listed while relying on the Holy Spirit for insight. It may be beneficial to make notes of what He reveals to you.
 - Did I engage in this relationship or activity as a result of following Christ's lead?
 - In what ways am I currently following the Lord's lead in this activity or relationship?
 - What evidence is there that Christ has first place in this part of my life?
 - Do I cling to my own goals and ideas of what should and shouldn't happen in this area of my life, or do I live fully yielded to God's desires concerning each detail?
 - How is this relationship or activity honoring to Jesus?
 - Now, for the most important question: Am I willing to surrender complete authority to God, allowing Him to teach me to change anything about my life He deems necessary?

✦ If the answer to this last question is yes, ask the Lord to reveal His will concerning each specific area of your life and be obedient to make any changes God shows you.

In **Philippians 1:6** Paul reminds us that God will carry out the initial work He began in us at the point of salvation. This means that even though bringing your life under the authority of Christ will take time, effort, and trust, you can rest in the fact that God will enable you every step of the way as you continually yield to His will.

✦ **TO ENCOURAGE:** 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 2:20**)