STRRENDER

Lord, everything I have comes from You—my income, my resources, my possessions. Today I surrender not just part, but all of it back to You. Teach me to serve You in sincerity and faithfulness with my finances, so that my giving declares: As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Amen.

A story of surrender . . .

William Carey was a humble shoemaker in England. By the world's standards, his life was ordinary, even forgettable. One day, as he read the Great Commission, his heart was broken for the millions who had never heard the name of Jesus. Though untrained and unconnected, Carey surrendered everything—his job, his home, and even the security of staying close to family—and boarded a ship to India in 1793.

He battled disease, lost children, and buried his wife overseas. But still, he kept going. Why? Because he had fully surrendered. Over his lifetime, Carey translated the Bible into over 40 Indian languages and dialects, built schools, and pioneered what we now call modern missions.

"As for me and my house," he once said, "we will serve the Lord—no matter what it costs." - William Carey

- SURRENDER -

Read Joshua 24:14-15.

What is the hardest thing for you to surrender to God? Why do you think it's so hard?

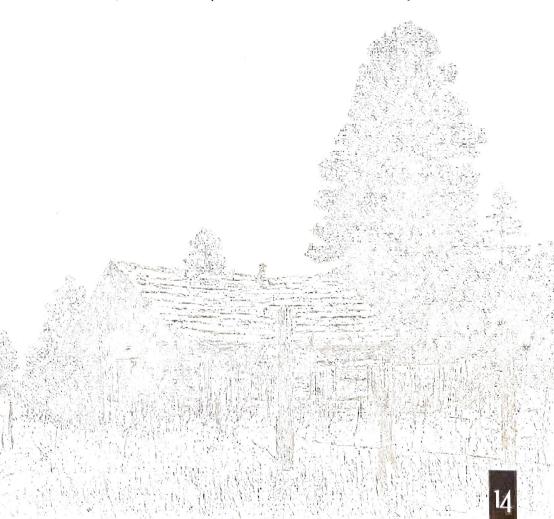
What does it mean to serve the Lord in sincerity and in faithfulness?

Can you serve the Lord in sincerity and faithfulness and still hold things higher or more important than Him? Explain.

WEEK ONE — SURRENDER —

It is easy to say you will surrender completely to God but how will you personally do it? Be specific.

What is it that you have not quite surrendered to Him today? Be honest.



GOING DEEPER - SURRENDER -

The Stone of Encounter: Jacob at Bethel - Genesis 28:10-22

Jacob was on the run. He had deceived his brother Esau, tricked his father Isaac, and was now fleeing into the unknown. At his lowest point—alone, afraid, uncertain—he stopped for the night. With only a stone for a pillow, Jacob laid down to sleep.

But in that lonely place, God stepped in. Jacob dreamed of a ladder reaching from earth to heaven with angels ascending and descending on it. At the top stood the Lord who spoke words of promise: "I am with you. I will watch over you wherever you go... I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

When Jacob awoke, everything had changed. "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it," he said. Trembling, he declared the ground to be holy. Then he took the stone he had used as a pillow, stood it upright, and poured oil on it. He called the place Bethel—"House of God." That stone became a marker of divine encounter.

Like the stones at the Jordan, Jacob's stone was more than a rock. It was a testimony. It declared that God meets His people, even in their brokenness. It declared that God's promises are not dependent on our perfection but on His faithfulness.

And here we see again: A full life in Christ is one that needs to be given just as much as it is received. Jacob received a vision of God's nearness and a promise of God's faithfulness. But he didn't stop there. He set up a stone as a witness and made a vow to give back—a tenth of all that God gave him. His response to grace was generosity. His encounter turned into an offering.

This is what LEGACY looks like. We don't just receive God's blessing for ourselves. We mark it. We testify to it. We give back out of it so others will know.

GOING DEEPER - SURBENDER

Every time we give, we are setting up stones of testimony like Jacob's at Bethel. We are declaring to future generations: "Surely the Lord is in this place." And one day, when others walk by the markers of our faith, they will see not just buildings, ministries, or programs. They will see the evidence of encounters with God—moments when His people responded to His faithfulness with generosity.

LEGACY is not about what we accumulate. It's about what we leave behind that points others to Jesus.

even in my weakness. Open my eyes to see You at work. May my response to Your presence be generosity and faith, leaving a witness for others.

WEEK ONE WORSHIP MUSIC PLAYLIST

