

SURRENDER, PART 1

MIKE BILLINGS

***13 Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.
(Romans 6:13)***

**SURRENDER SERIES WEEK 1
JULY 27, 2025**

A white flag with a black pole is shown against a transparent background. The flag has two lines of text. The first line is in bold black italicized font, and the second line is in blue italicized font.

***Facing imminent crucifixion,
Jesus prays in Luke 22:42***

***“Father, if you are willing, take
this cup from me; yet not my
will, but yours be done.”***

SURRENDER IS A POWERFUL ACT OF
COURAGE AND WISDOM, ENABLING ONE TO
FIND PEACE AND MOVE FORWARD MORE
HARMONIOUSLY IN ALIGNMENT WITH GOD.

PROVERBS 3:5 *“TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL
YOUR HEART AND LEAN NOT ON YOUR OWN
UNDERSTANDING”*

WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE RIGHT CHOICE
MAY IN FACT BE THE WRONG CHOICE.

PROVERBS 14:12 *"THERE IS A WAY THAT
APPEARS TO BE RIGHT, BUT IN THE END IT
LEADS TO DEATH."*

JUST BECAUSE WE'RE IN OVER OUR HEADS
DOES NOT MEAN GOD IS NO LONGER IN
CONTROL.

ISAIAH 41:10 *"SO DO NOT FEAR, FOR I AM
WITH YOU; DO NOT BE DISMAYED, FOR I AM
YOUR GOD. I WILL STRENGTHEN YOU AND
HELP YOU; I WILL UPHOLD YOU WITH MY
RIGHTEOUS RIGHT HAND."*

ABRAHAM'S CALL TO SACRIFICE ISAAC.

GENESIS 22: 1-2 *"¹ Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. ² Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."*

ABRAHAM DIDN'T DELAY GENESIS 22:3

“EARLY THE NEXT MORNING, ABRAHAM GOT UP AND LOADED HIS DONKEY. HE TOOK WITH HIM TWO OF HIS SERVANTS AND HIS SON ISAAC. WHEN HE HAD CUT ENOUGH WOOD FOR THE BURNT OFFERING, HE SET OUT FOR THE PLACE GOD HAD TOLD HIM ABOUT.”

THE LORD HAD PROMISED ABRAHAM THAT HE
WOULD ESTABLISH HIS COVENANT WITH ISAAC
AND HIS DESCENDANTS IN GENESIS 17:19

*"THEN GOD SAID, 'YES, BUT YOUR WIFE SARAH
WILL BEAR YOU A SON, AND YOU WILL CALL HIM
ISAAC. I WILL ESTABLISH MY COVENANT WITH
HIM AS AN EVERLASTING COVENANT FOR HIS
DESCENDANTS AFTER HIM.'"*

THE WRITER OF HEBREWS EXPLAINED ABRAHAM'S
FAITH IN HEBREWS 11:19

*“ABRAHAM REASONED THAT GOD COULD EVEN
RAISE THE DEAD, AND SO IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING
HE DID RECEIVE ISAAC BACK FROM DEATH.”*

ISAAC MUST HAVE BEEN IN HIS LATE TEENS OR
EARLY TWENTIES. WE CAN KNOW THIS BY THE
QUESTIONS ISAAC ASKED OF ABRAHAM IN
GENESIS 22:7

*“ISAAC SPOKE UP AND SAID TO HIS FATHER
ABRAHAM, “FATHER?” “YES, MY SON?”
ABRAHAM REPLIED. “THE FIRE AND WOOD ARE
HERE,” ISAAC SAID, “BUT WHERE IS THE LAMB
FOR THE BURNT OFFERING?”*

AND IN VERSE 6:

*“ABRAHAM TOOK THE WOOD FOR THE BURNT
OFFERING AND PLACED IT ON HIS SON ISAAC,
AND HE HIMSELF CARRIED THE FIRE AND THE
KNIFE. AS THE TWO OF THEM WENT ON
TOGETHER.”*

**THE ACT OF SURRENDER DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN WE
LOSE SOMETHING WE WANT; INSTEAD, IT OFTEN
LEADS TO SOMETHING GREATER THAN OURSELVES.**

LUKE 9:23 JESUS EXPLAINS THAT “*WHOEVER
WANTS TO BE MY DISCIPLE MUST DENY
THEMSELVES AND TAKE UP THEIR CROSS DAILY
AND FOLLOW ME.*”

AND IN 2 TIMOTHY 3:12, PAUL TELLS TIMOTHY,
*“IN FACT, EVERYONE WHO WANTS TO LIVE A
GODLY LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS WILL BE
PERSECUTED.”*

WHEN WE LEAD A LIFE SURRENDERED TO
CHRIST, WE PUT CHRIST FIRST.

BIBLICAL SURRENDER MEANS TRUSTING IN JESUS, EVEN
WHEN WE DON'T UNDERSTAND, ESPECIALLY WHEN
THINGS SPIRAL OUT OF CONTROL OR OUR WORLD IS
CRASHING DOWN.

ISAIAH 26:3 ENCOURAGES US TO TRUST:

*“YOU WILL KEEP IN PERFECT PEACE THOSE WHOSE
MINDS ARE STEADFAST, BECAUSE THEY TRUST IN YOU.”*

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7 TEACHES US TO HOLD THIS TRUTH
CLOSE TO OUR OBEDIENCE AND TRUST.

*“⁶ DO NOT BE ANXIOUS ABOUT ANYTHING, BUT IN EVERY
SITUATION, BY PRAYER AND PETITION, WITH
THANKSGIVING, PRESENT YOUR REQUESTS TO GOD. ⁷
AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH TRANSCENDS ALL
UNDERSTANDING, WILL GUARD YOUR HEARTS AND YOUR
MINDS IN CHRIST JESUS.”*

ISAIAH EXHIBITED SURRENDER BY RESPONDING TO GOD'S
CALL TO BE A PROPHET WITHOUT HESITATION. DESPITE
FEELING UNWORTHY AND INADEQUATE, AS HE STATES IN
ISAIAH 6:5:

*“WOE TO ME!” I CRIED. “I AM RUINED! FOR I AM A
MAN OF UNCLEAR LIPS, AND I LIVE AMONG A PEOPLE
OF UNCLEAR LIPS, AND MY EYES HAVE SEEN THE KING,
THE LORD ALMIGHTY.”*

WE READ HIS BOLD AND CONFIDENT RESPONSE
TO THE LORD FROM ISAIAH 6:8,

*“THEN I HEARD THE VOICE OF THE LORD
SAYING, “WHOM SHALL I SEND?” “AND WHO
WILL GO FOR US?” AND I SAID, “HERE AM I
SEND ME!”*

JOSEPH'S STORY TEACHES US THE POWER OF
FORGIVENESS, RESILIENCE, PATIENCE, AND COMPLETE
TRUST IN GOD REGARDLESS OF LIFE'S CHALLENGES.

GENESIS 50:20

*“YOU INTENDED TO HARM ME, BUT GOD INTENDED IT
FOR GOOD TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT IS NOW BEING
DONE, THE SAVING OF MANY LIVES.”*

GOD WILL RESHAPE US AS IT SEEMS BEST TO
HIM!

JEREMIAH 18:6

*"HE SAID, "CAN I NOT DO WITH YOU, ISRAEL,
AS THIS POTTER DOES?" DECLARES THE LORD.
"LIKE CLAY IN THE HAND OF THE POTTER, SO ARE
YOU IN MY HAND, ISRAEL."*

C.S. LEWIS: “GOD DOESN’T WANT SOMETHING
FROM US; HE SIMPLY WANTS US”

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A DIFFERENT YOU BEFORE
GOD; YOU CAN BE THE REAL YOU WITH HIM. HE
FORMED YOU AND HAS ALWAYS KNOWN YOU.

JEREMIAH 1:5

*“BEFORE I FORMED YOU IN THE WOMB I KNEW YOU,
BEFORE YOU WERE BORN I SET YOU APART; I APPOINTED
YOU AS A PROPHET TO THE NATIONS.”*

GOD KNOWS YOUR THOUGHTS, YOUR HEART, AND
YOUR INTENTIONS, AND HE LOVES YOU COMPLETELY,
DESPITE OUR FLAWS, FOR HE HAS CALLED YOU FOR A
PURPOSE, SO YOU CAN CONFIDENTLY APPROACH HIM.

HEBREWS 4:16

*“LET US THEN APPROACH GOD’S THRONE OF GRACE
WITH CONFIDENCE, SO THAT WE MAY RECEIVE MERCY
AND FIND GRACE TO HELP US IN OUR TIME OF NEED.”*

1 PETER 5:7 TELLS US TO GO BEFORE GOD AND

*“CAST ALL YOUR ANXIETY ON HIM BECAUSE HE
CARES FOR YOU.”*

BIBLE TEACHER AND AUTHOR GARY THOMAS, IN HIS BOOK "SEEKING THE FACE OF GOD," REFERENCES GENESIS 32:24-30, STATING THAT

"THERE WILL LIKELY BE A TIME IN OUR CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS WHEN, LIKE JACOB, WE WILL WRESTLE WITH GOD ALL NIGHT LONG... BUT THERE MUST EVENTUALLY COME A DAWN WHEN WE SAY, "OK, GOD, YOU WIN... NOT MY WILL BUT THINE BE DONE."

DO YOU FEAR WHAT A LIFESTYLE OF FULL SURRENDER
MIGHT COST YOU? IF YOU DO, THEN TAKE A MOMENT
TO CONSIDER THE COST OF HOLDING OUT ON GOD.
RESISTANCE IS FAR MORE COSTLY THAN SURRENDER.

ROMANS 12:1

*“THEREFORE, I URGE YOU, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, IN
VIEW OF GOD’S MERCY, TO OFFER YOUR BODIES AS A
LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY AND PLEASING TO GOD—THIS
IS YOUR TRUE AND PROPER WORSHIP.”*