

FREEDOM

Small Group Leader Guide

WEEK SIX



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A LIFE OF SURRENDER

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.*

PROVERBS 3:5-6 NIV

WEEK SIX LEADER GUIDE

Overview

When it comes to life with Christ, the act of giving up control to Him is actually the beginning of our freedom. A life of surrender requires trust, and that trust is developed in the context of relationship. Jesus left heaven and came to earth; He felt hunger, hurt, and rejection; He was beaten and crucified and three days later rose from the grave—all so He could prove His love, earn our trust, and be in relationship with us.

If you want to get to know God better, you will need to do what you would do when getting to know a friend: spend time with Him. This doesn't have to look a certain way. The key is to invite Him into your life. The Lord will reveal Himself to you as you do things that feed your spirit, like studying the Word, seeking Him in prayer, and building relationships with like-minded friends. God's way of thinking is much different—and much greater—than ours. As a believer, the only way you can live the abundant life God has for you is to fully surrender your life to Him and adopt His way of doing things.

God wants to make our lives smoother by being Lord over everything. It is only when He is in control that we can walk in spiritual order. Anything we decide to hold on to becomes our responsibility to maintain. However, if we surrender every area of our lives to Him, He will partner with us on this journey and bring us safely to our final destination. When we surrender everything to Him, we will find that His path to the fulfillment of our desires is better than we could have imagined on our own.

Discussion Guide

- What areas of your life have you not fully surrendered to God? Are you having a hard time trusting Him with those areas?
- This week, we learned that we will worship what we value most. What are some of the things you might value more than your relationship with God? How do you think your life would change if you pursued God with all your heart rather than those things?
- Do you have any relationships you need to surrender to the Lord? If so, how have those relationships come between you and God? How do you think your life will change once you surrender those relationships?
- Which of the “Six Ways to Stay Unoffended” spoke to you the most and why?
- Have you surrendered your past, present, and future to God? Do you trust that His way is better than your own? Why or why not?

Application

Encourage your participants to think about the areas of their lives that need to be surrendered to the Lord. Have them pray about those areas this week, and encourage them to choose a Scripture to declare over each area.

Prayer Focus

- Pray that the Lord will reveal the areas that your participants need to surrender to Him.
- Pray that their hearts will be softened and that they will understand that surrendering these things to the Lord and letting Him be in control will bring freedom and peace.