

Do You Surrender?

5-Day Devotional - 4.26.26

Day 1

Confession and Submission

Reading: Romans 10:9-13

Devotional:

Confessing Jesus as Lord is more than reciting words—it's declaring His authority over every area of your life. When you speak "Jesus is Lord" and believe God raised Him from the dead, you're not just securing salvation; you're submitting to His leadership. Today, consider what confession truly means. Are there areas where you've said the words but withheld control? True confession implies total submission. The beauty of the gospel is that God makes salvation simple, but He calls us to live out that salvation authentically. Examine your heart: Is Jesus truly Lord of everything, or are you holding back certain rooms of your life? Surrender begins with honest confession.

Reflection: If Jesus is truly Lord (Romans 10:9), what specific area of your life are you still withholding from His authority, and what would full surrender in that area look like according to Scripture?

Day 2

Faith That Works

Reading: James 2:14-26

Devotional:

James confronts us with uncomfortable truth: faith without deeds is dead. Even demons believe in God and tremble, yet they remain unchanged. The question isn't whether you have faith, but whether your faith produces transformation. Saving faith cannot exist without producing righteous works—not to earn salvation, but as evidence of genuine surrender. Look at your life today. What fruit demonstrates your faith? Are you managing sin or overcoming it? True Christianity moves beyond surface-level behavior modification to heart transformation. When you surrender to Christ's lordship, obedience flows naturally from a changed heart. Your works don't save you, but they reveal whether you've truly surrendered to the One who does.

Reflection: What evidence in your daily life shows that your faith is alive (James 2:17), and where do your actions need to more clearly reflect obedience to God's Word?

Day 3

Authority Through Surrender

Reading: Luke 6:46-49; Matthew 28:18-20

Devotional:

Jesus asks a piercing question: "Why do you call me Lord and don't do what I say?" Authority flows from submission. Like a police officer who represents the department they've surrendered to, you can only walk in Christ's authority when you've submitted to His. Many believers feel powerless because they resist the very authority they claim. When you surrender to Jesus, you gain access to His power, His confidence, His victory over sin. You can't experience spiritual breakthrough while holding onto control. Today, identify one area where you've been resisting God's direction. What would change if you surrendered that area completely? Remember: partial surrender brings partial experience, but total surrender unlocks the abundant life Jesus promised.

Reflection: In light of Jesus' question in Luke 6:46, where are you calling Him "Lord" but not doing what He says, and how can you begin to obey Him in that area today?

Day 4

The Abundant Life

Reading: John 10:7-18

Devotional:

Jesus came that you might have life abundantly—overflowing, overwhelming life. Yet many believers forfeit this fullness because they won't surrender control. How many dreams sit unrealized in the bucket of delayed obedience? God has plans for you beyond your imagination, but delayed surrender means delayed breakthrough. When you hold onto control, you lose peace, joy, and purpose. You remain saved but stuck, called but not walking in it, close but not fully experiencing God. The enemy wants you to believe surrender means loss, but it actually means gain. What are you clinging to that's preventing you from experiencing God's best? Today is the day to let go and trust the Savior who jumped into the ocean of humanity to rescue you.

Reflection: Jesus promises abundant life to those who follow Him (John 10:10). What is currently hindering you from experiencing that fullness, and how does Scripture call you to respond in surrender?

Day 5

True Discipleship

Reading: Matthew 7:21-27

Devotional:

The most sobering passage in Scripture reveals that religious activity doesn't equal salvation. Many will say "Lord, Lord" and point to their works, yet hear "I never knew you." The issue isn't whether you said the right words or did Christian things—it's whether you truly surrendered. Satan believes in God but never submitted to His authority. You can attend church for years, speak Christian language, even perform miracles, yet remain unchanged.

Transformation doesn't come from information but from surrender and obedience. Today, be honest: Have you been struggling with surrender or resisting it? God is patient with struggle but confronts resistance. Stop thrashing in the water and cooperate with your Savior. Build your life on the rock of obedience, not the sand of empty profession. True disciples don't just know about Jesus—they follow Him completely.

Reflection: According to Matthew 7:24, am I building my life on obedience to Jesus' words, or merely hearing them, and what step of obedience is God calling me to take right now?