

Devoted | Surrender to Me

Next Steps Review: Did you rewrite your schedule for this past week in order to place God at the front of it? How well did you stick to that schedule?

Ice Breaker: Do you prefer the frigid temperatures of winter or the humid temperatures of summer?

This Week's Big Idea: Devoted next steps lead us to fully surrender as we follow in faith & obedience.

What do you remember most, or what stuck with you from the weekend's teaching?

Scripture: Matthew 16|24-25

1. Share a time when you chose to give up something for the sake of a relationship.
2. Using Matthew 16, discuss how surrender is the basis for our relationship with God.
3. What does it mean for you to deny yourself and take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Scripture: Matthew 26|36-44

4. Share a time in your life where you wrestled with obeying God's will.
5. How does this scripture illustrate that surrendering to God's will can be agonizing?
6. If "the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak," how can we cultivate our spirit or discipline our flesh to more naturally surrender to the will of God?

Scripture: Galatians 5|16-25

7. Have you ever experienced feelings of freedom after you let go of something you were struggling with? Share the story with the group.
8. From the Scripture, discuss the differences in our lives when we are in control vs. when we surrender control to the Spirit of God.
9. In what specific area of your life might you experience joy, peace, etc if you surrendered it to the Lord?

Next Steps: Practice surrendering to God as a spiritual discipline this week. Identify one instance, big or small, each day when you can surrender your will in favor of His will.