

Connecting Group questions

1. Reflect on the message: What impacted you most from Sunday's message?
  - a. What is God saying to you about your life?
  
2. Identify together how surrender and love are connected.
  - a. Why is the word "surrender" so unpopular today?
  - b. Where are you in the "surrender" dimension of loving God and others?
  - c. Where are you holding back 10%?
  - d. Identify together how you can surrender to God personally, mentally, and physically.
  
3. Reflect together on your deepest loves – your family members, your spouse, best friends. Observe how some forms of surrender are simply part of genuine love. Reflect on the quote from John Stott below. How might you surrender your mind more to the Bible, to spiritual formation, and to love?
  
4. Commit yourself today to specific, concrete acts of surrender to God and to others.
  
5. Take some time to pray for you, your group's, and this church. Take time to pray for each other's spiritual development this week.

Prayer for the week:

*Father, remind us that our fear of surrender prevents us from loving you and others as we ought. Awaken us to live for loving you and others. In Jesus name, Amen.*

Quotes:

*Only if we serve, will we experience freedom. Only if we lose ourselves in loving, will we find ourselves. Only if we die to our own self-centeredness, will we begin to live. – John R. W. Stott*

*I felt a pressing need to read a Bible. If this guy Jesus is going to be my boss, who the heck is he? I bought a small King James version in London and plunged into the Gospel of Matthew. I wasn't pleased. I found a lot to argue with. But a conviction was slowly seeping into me: I didn't make the world. I didn't know everything, and it was time to sit down and listen.*

**- Frederica Mathewes-Green**