

Unexpected Surrender

October 18, 2020



Begin with prayer

As you begin your gathering, designate someone to pray the prayer of indifference that Shan mentioned in his sermon over your group. Use this adapted prayer by Charles de Foucauld to help:

*Father,
we abandon ourselves into your hands;
do with us what you will.
Whatever you may do, we thank you;
We are ready for all, we accept all.*

*Let only your will be done in us,
and in all your creatures—
We wish no more than this, O Lord.
Into your hands we commend our souls:
We offer it to you with all the love of our hearts,
For we love you, Lord, and so need
to give ourselves, to surrender ourselves into your hands
without reserve and with boundless confidence,
for you are our Father. Amen.*

Read this overview

During this 13-week series, we are going to be opening up the book of Mark together to study the life of Jesus—The Unexpected King. During this series, we will gain a better understanding of who Jesus is and what it really means to be his disciple.

This past weekend Shan preached on **Mark 14** and the Unexpected Surrender Jesus had with his disciples.

Scripture + Discussion

This week's goal is to focus on the will of God in our lives as disciples of Jesus and how to surrender our wants and wishes to that of the Father's.

Take turns reading through all the way through **Mark 14:32-42**. Then, use the questions below to guide your discussion to hit on the above objectives.

Here are a few questions to open and guide this time:

- What from this passage/sermon challenged or deepened your discipleship to Jesus?
- **Read 1 Peter 2:24.** What feelings do you have knowing that Jesus suffered because of your sin? Why is it important that Jesus drink the cup of God's wrath (and willingly at that!)? **See Matthew 20:20-28; Jeremiah 25:15; Isaiah 51:17; Romans 1:18; Romans 5:9** for other verses discussing the cup of wrath.
- How does it comfort you to know that Jesus goes before us in surrendering his will to the Father's? How does that help you do the same in your own life?
- How do you feel about the quote, "God's will...nothing more, nothing less, nothing else"? Does this quote express a foundational truth for your life? Explain why or why not.
- What is something you've been holding onto that you might need to bring before God and say, "Not my will be done, but Yours?"
- What does Jesus' example in the Garden of Gethsemane teach us about what to do with our emotions?
- How do characteristics like honesty and surrender work together in our prayers as exemplified by Jesus? How have you seen these two characteristics of Jesus' prayer in the Garden at play in your own life? Where have they not been at play?
- When was a time you were indifferent to what you wanted and instead opted for God's will in your life? When was a time you weren't indifferent to your own wants and wishes and didn't opt for God's will in your life?

Accountability

Take some time this week to split your group into smaller or gendered groups and share your answers to the accountability questions below and go over the challenge for this week. Be sure to follow up on anything that was shared last week.

- Have you memorized **Philippians 2:5-11**?
- What has your time in God's Word and prayer been like this week?
- What have you learned from Jesus this week?
- Have you consistently reflected the love of Christ to those in your life this week (such as your spouse, children, or co-workers)?
- Where have you wrestled with temptation this week?
- What sins do you need to confess right now?
- Have you been 100% honest?

Finish with prayer

Finish your group session with prayer. You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.

