

Single & Single-Again TUES NITES Meal, Message & Mixer
Healthy Relationships.....Being The Best You Can Be – Surrender

Jane Stolz' video teaching, handout, and audio Mp3 file of this message will be online to share with others at www.christiansinglesindenver.com

Let's Go To The Islands!



**Being The Best You Can Be
Surrender!**

What holds you in bondage?

Secret Vows?

Never Again Will I

We HATE giving up C_____!

Surrendering your life to God means:

- Following God's lead without knowing where he's sending you
- Waiting for God's timing without knowing when it will come
- Expecting a miracle without knowing how God will provide
- Trusting God's purpose without understanding the circumstances

*Surrender yourself to the Lord,
and wait patiently for him.*

Psalms 37:7

You know you're surrendered to God when you rely on God to work things out instead of trying to M_____ others, F_____ your agenda, and C_____ the situation. You let go and let God work. You don't have to always be in charged. Instead of trying harder, you trust more.

You also know you're surrendered when you don't react to C_____ and rush to D_____ yourself.

Surrendered hearts show up best in relationships. You are not S_____ - S_____, you don't edge others out, and you don't D_____ your rights.

Supreme Example of self-surrender is Jesus!

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The level of maturity doesn't come easy. In Jesus' case, he agonized so much over God's plan that he sweated drops of blood. **Surrender is hard work!** In our case, it requires intense warfare against our **self-centered nature**.

I Corinthians 8:6 *"Yet for us there is but one God, the Father from whom are all things, and we exist for Him, and one Lord Jesus Christ by whom are all things and we exist through Him."*

Colossians 1:16 says, *"For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created by Him and for Him."*

The process of surrendering to God is in reality the process of tearing down thought patterns – “strongholds” or “old tapes” that keep me from yielding to God.

II Corinthians 10:5 tells me exactly what I am doing when I surrender to God: *"I am destroying speculations, and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and I am taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ Jesus."*

James 1:17 *"Every good thing bestowed, and every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow."*

James 4:7 gives me the answer: *"Submit (surrender) to God. Resist the devil (and his destructive thoughts) and he will flee."*

But HOW do I surrender to God?

Colossians 3:2 says: *"Set your mind on things above, not on the things that are on this earth."*

Philippians 4:6-8 says: *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with Thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, whatever is excellent, worthy of praise let your mind dwell on these things."*

This process breaks Satan's power over our thought patterns that holds us in bondage to the problem. To get started in the process of overcoming your difficulty, be **S**_____ about what you would really like to overcome....fear, anxiety, relationships difficulties, rage, eating disorders, depression, bad temper, anger, procrastination, job stress, pride, strife, drug addiction, smoking, fantasy addiction..... You say "I KNOW what it is that I want to overcome."

Now that I have placed my burden **SOLIDLY** in God's hands, make the decision to **LEAVE IT THERE!**

When God answers, He answers with peace and assurance. You don't have to struggle and strain for an answer from God, or worry and fret that maybe He won't provide you with a solution. Put the matter in God's hands just as you would put a matter in the hands of a most trusted friend who has promised to help you. Then **IN YOUR MIND**, leave the matter alone, and move on.

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If we are truly surrendered, we will never be aware of our own efforts to remain surrendered. Our entire life will be consumed with the One to whom we surrender.

I Give Up

Here I am, standing on the edge.
I can't make it alone anymore.
I fall to my knees,
Lord, I give up. Forgive me.
I've come to the place,
Where you are is what I need.
I have no one to blame.
I give up, take away these sins.
Too long the road I've walked,
Carrying in my heart,
Those things I should cast aside.
This is where I give up.
Here I am, waiting for your love;
Waiting for your embrace,
Giving my soul and might to you.
Forgive me.

Discussion Questions:

What kinds of things keep you in bondage? What keeps you from stepping out in faith? What keeps you from doing what God wants you to do? Why?

Surrendering your life to God is really about trusting Him completely. How do you think you're doing with this based on how you personally manipulate others, force your own agenda, and control situations? How do you react to criticism? Do you defend yourself? When, How and Why?

How about in relationships? Are you more Self-Serving or giving? Do you demand your own rights or are you more concerned about the other person?

Did you participate tonight by putting your struggle in the palm of your hands and surrendering to the Lord? Was that scary for you? Difficult? Why? What do you think would make this easier for you? Or if it was easy, we tend to take it back, sometimes quickly. What is your plan to finally leave it with God?

HELPFUL TIPS for

Great Table Discussions

**Each table should have a designated
Table Host.**

1. Use God's ear-to-mouth ratio:

Listen two times more than you speak. 1 or 2 people should not dominate the time, and EVERYONE should contribute during the discussion.

2. Smile and be friendly.

Avoid excessive complaining about people or personal problems.

3. God's grace rules the day

Recognize that everyone will not always agree – be gracious and give grace to one another. People are at different places in their spiritual walk and in their life journey.

4. Moving the discussion along.

Table host/facilitators are to move the discussion along. They have permission to limit any negative comments, to invite people to answer a question, to ask someone for their perspective, to limit the amount of time some people speak, and to move on to the next question.

5. Help for the hurting:

This is a supportive group, but it is not a support group or a therapy session. But if someone is really hurting, take a moment and have someone in the group specifically pray for them.