



“Lord Help!”

“Lord, help!” they cried in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He led them from the darkness and deepest gloom; he snapped their chains.”

Psalm 107: 13-14 (NLT)

“Lord, Help! I don’t want to live my life like this anymore!” These are the telltale words of Surrender: you pour out from deep within your soul and give up, relinquishing all rights to whatever you are releasing. I’ve said these exact words countless times as I’ve sought to advance my Mission, each time sensing a newfound freedom as God leads me from my deep gloom.

Of course, it’s not as simple as uttering the words. I’ve heard pastors say many times, “Just surrender it to God.” Saying you believe in Jesus does not save you; so also, surrendering is much more than mere words. It’s a deep and difficult process. We try, only to realize later that we were somehow still holding on, like driving and letting go of the wheel with our hands but continuing to steer with our legs. You must “reach a point of surrender.”

Reflect: What is God asking me to surrender right now?

A soldier fights on until he sees absolutely no alternative but to surrender, typically only after he's been badly bloodied. We abhor the thought of giving up; we do not trust that good will come if we do. "What will happen to me? This is going to hurt!" Our fears hold us with ferocity; they lock us in.

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives." Jesus Christ (John 12:24)

Something must die for something new to grow, as nature attests. It's no different as we seek to grow spiritually. New belief replaces old belief as our trust in God's promises grows. Surrendering is a painful process, but one which dramatically deepens our relationship with Jesus. He knows what is good for us; he wants us close to him. Remember, God's #1 priority is Oneness with him. How can this happen with something in the way? He so much wants this that he leads us to this point because following the pain of surrender new growth occurs, we experience newfound freedom and become incredibly contagious.

Consider: Replacing a worldly belief with a kingdom promise makes me contagious.

As Jesus said, after death, much new fruit is produced... a byproduct of fresh Intimacy with him. Our testimonies are especially contagious then. An overarching theme of the Psalms is that our testimonies are to be proclaimed wherever we go, even to the kings of the world. This is God's primary means of spreading his gospel. It

emanates from our pain as we surrender.

Imagine: God's kingdom increases because I surrender more of my life to Jesus.

As a warrior behind enemy lines, it's easy to believe that the battle is waged solely "out there." One look at the world and feel your hackles rise, "It's out of control, I have to do my part to fix it!" Ironically, the battle within us rages hottest.

"Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil." The Apostle Paul (Ephesians 6:11)

Your testimony following surrender is the antidote the world needs, how else could it be saved? The devil knows this full well. It's you he's after. So, armor up to protect against his strategies. His top, discrediting kingdom truth, forms your battle front. Who will you believe? As you seek to advance your Mission, let God's truth stand firm, drop your guard and cry out...

"Lord Help!"

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach's Questions

- What kingdom promise is the devil coercing me to doubt?
- How much longer will I continue doubting?
- How will I shift my focus on to the saving testimony produced by my surrender?

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

When I surrender I glorify God and my Mission advances

*"Then call on me when you are in trouble, and I will
rescue you, and you will give me glory."*

Asaph | Psalm 50:15



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