

# Curriculum



## ***Surrendered Leadership***

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**PRAYERS**



**LEARN**

**Surrender isn't laziness, it's commitment.**

"I got the job!" James was thrilled about this new opportunity. He celebrated with his family, full of excitement and hope. But by the next morning the weight of responsibility started to settle in. What if he didn't meet expectations? What if he missed something important? What if he failed and lost the paycheck? People encouraged him regularly with, "You've got this!" But instead of feeling encouraged, James felt like he was carrying everything by himself. He was trying to juggle it all. In no time, he was feeling overwhelmed and distracted.

Many of us put enormous pressure on ourselves and carry burdens we were never meant to carry. We are not Jesus, the Savior of the world, yet so often live as if everything rests on us. The world even tells us it's all on us and glorifies us when we show up with our "A" game, check all the boxes, achieve the goals and are self-sufficient. But then work becomes only a personal agenda that we think we can manage on our own, and our selfish need to control people and things. What if, instead, we choose to surrender it to God? Surrender isn't passive, it's an intentional daily commitment to align our beliefs about work, our motives, our leadership styles, and all we do with God's truth. As we immerse ourselves in His Word, He reshapes and transforms how we think and live. (see [Romans 12:1-2](#)).

**Surrender isn't quitting, it's trusting.**

Actively committing our work to God takes the pressure from us. But that doesn't mean we quit, become passive or lazy. Instead of striving, hustling, and trying to hold everything together through our own effort, we are called to serve faithfully. We entrust God with what is outside of our control like other people, systems, policies, and circumstances. Rather than living in anxiety, discontent, and stress because we can't do it all, we commit it to God, and by doing so, affirm that God is enough.

We are not called to control the outcomes but to honor God with our efforts. In everything we do we can demonstrate God's character with integrity, service, and wisdom. God will work even through our imperfections as we commit to working with humility, wisdom, and excellence.



**LIVE**

**Discussion questions:** Read the text and scriptures below, and prepare to answer the questions.

1. Read [Luke 10:38-42](#). When are you most likely to use busyness as a distraction from resting in God's presence? How will you choose differently next time?
2. Read [Exodus 18:13-23](#). What wisdom from Jethro can you apply to your life today?
3. Read [Proverbs 3:5-6](#) and [Romans 12:2](#). What principles, mindsets or perceived truths have you adopted that don't align with God's word?
4. Read [Proverbs 16:1-9](#) (MSG) and [James 4:13-15](#). Where have you tried to hold on too tightly or control things? What did you learn in the process?
5. Read [Numbers 12:1-9](#) and [Matthew 26:59-64](#). Have you ever been questioned or challenged by others who didn't agree with your approach? How did you respond – or did you?

**Application Question:** In what areas might your sense of responsibility be shifting towards control?



**PRAYERS**



PRAYERS

Opening Prayer & Prayer Requests



LEARN

Before you begin, read the AGENDA LEARN introduction together and review the APPLICATION QUESTION from the previous meeting's RECAP.



LIVE

**Discussion Questions:** Have someone read each Bible verse aloud and then ask the corresponding question. Be sure everyone has enough time to find the Scripture before the verse is read.

- 1) Read [Luke 10:38-42](#). When are you most likely to use busyness as a distraction from resting in God's presence? How will you choose differently next time?



Serving others is important but not when it is a distraction from *why* we do it.



Each day has the same 24 hours in it for every person, but Martha and Mary chose to spend their time differently. Jesus exposes this as a teaching opportunity. He reminds us that it is important to prioritize time in His presence, not just the busy work.



Read [Lamentations 3:21-26](#) and be reminded of God's compassion and mercy that is ever present.

Notes:

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- 2) Read [Exodus 18:13-23](#). What wisdom from Jethro can you apply to your life today?



Jethro was Moses' father-in-law and shared Godly wisdom and advice to help Moses with his workload.



Jethro was concerned that Moses was wearing himself out and would be of no use to those he was meant to serve. Jethro helped Moses remember that God is the ultimate judge and the people should live by God's decrees and instructions. Finally, in delegating and empowering others, Moses would be able to share the burdens of the work to make the load lighter for everyone.



If you don't already have a mentor like Jethro was for Moses, ask God to help you find someone who can offer faith-filled truth and wisdom for your circumstances.

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**3) Read [Proverbs 3:5-6](#) and [Romans 12:2](#). What principles, mindsets or perceived truths have you adopted that don't align with God's word?**



It says, "In *all* your ways submit to him," not just some of them.



The world says, "You've got this" and glorifies us when we can be *all* things to *all* people and seem to make it *all* happen. But what is suffering in the process? Jesus is the savior of the world, not us. Delegating and empowering others is a way to partner with God in accomplishing good work. Surrendering is saying God is enough and can be trusted in *all* things.



Choose one thing and commit or re-commit it to God this week. Where did you notice submission being easy and where can you work on renewing your mind?

**Notes:**

**4) Read [Proverbs 16:1-9](#) (MSG) and [James 4:13-15](#). Where have you tried to hold on too tightly or control things? What did you learn in the process?**



You can plan your journey, but God ultimately directs your steps.



When we say, "I've got this," we are essentially telling God we don't need help. Walking with God makes things better as the plans made and His will become aligned. But, when we struggle or hit bumps in the road, it is an opportunity to stop and realign with God's divine guidance. Through this we can experience less pressure for the outcomes and greater peace on the journey.

**Notes:**

**5) Read [Numbers 12:1-9](#) and [Matthew 26:59-64](#). Have you ever been questioned or challenged by others who didn't agree with your approach? How did you respond – or did you?**



God defended Moses. Jesus remained silent, until he spoke irrefutable truth.



Moses' sister Miriam challenged him, but Moses had surrendered all authority to God. So, when it was questioned, Moses did not have need to defend his position because God gave it to him and so defended his reputation. This did not reveal weakness, only surrendered strength as we also witness through Jesus.



Joseph and Daniel's stories are ones of stolen credit and withheld promotion yet ultimately surrendered leadership - so if you want to learn more about identity, entitlement, authority and reputation, try *Joseph: Foresight* or *Daniel: Community* in the *Characters Exposed* Curriculum series available in Go!Connect with your login credentials.



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Application Question: In what areas might your sense of responsibility be shifting towards control?



**PRAYERS**

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer

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**LEAD**

**Ask Yourself:** What do I need to surrender my control of today and replace with trust in God?

Sample



**PRAYERS**

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**ROADMAP**

If you are feeling the pressure to hold it all together, becoming weary, or overwhelmed, this [BBT](#) volume of curriculum will help you understand what it looks like to surrender to God. It isn't laziness, it's commitment. It's also not quitting, but trusting in God's will that is good, pleasing, and perfect.



**LEARN**

Luke helps us see, through the story of Mary and Martha, how the busyness and distractions of life take us away from spending time with Jesus. Moses was headed for burnout, but wise counsel from Jethro helped him make better decisions about how he was leading and serving others. Jesus didn't need to defend his actions because everything He did aligned with the Father's will.

Scripture References for this study: [Luke 10:38-42](#), [Lamentations 3:1-20](#), [Exodus 18:13-23](#), [Proverbs 3:5-6](#), [Romans 12:1-2](#), [Proverbs 16:1-9](#) (MSG), [James 4:13-15](#), [Numbers 12:1-15](#) and [Matthew 26:59-64](#)



**LIVE**

- Busyness
- Balance
- Belief

Application Question: In what areas might your sense of responsibility be shifting towards control?



**LEAD**

**Ask Yourself:** What do I need to surrender my control of today and replace with trust in God?