CRU PRESS



NEXT BOOKLET

THE SURRENDERED LIFE 100% SENT BOOKLET



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"The world has yet to see what God will do through

one person who is totally surrendered to

D.L. Moody

God

Surrender. Easy to say, harder to do. It's a word that makes most people feel uncomfortable. It means relinquishing control and entrusting yourself to someone else.

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We have two choices. We will give ourselves fully to this world, running after its pleasures and "bling", letting others dictate to us what is right and good and fulfilling, and asking ourselves each morning as we hurry off to work... is this really the abundant life?

Consider the second option – we surrender ourselves to Jesus. We believe God truly loves us (*Jn* 3.16). That His intentions towards us are kind © 2010, CruPress, All Rights Reserved. CruPress.com and good (*Eph 1.9*), and that He plans to give us a future and a hope (*Jer 29.11*). We were made for this.

Most Christians don't purposely walk away from God; rather, they drift away. We miss the abundant life Jesus promised and simply settle for "good enough". We choose to hold tightly to our wants and desires, our time and treasures, unwilling to release it all to Christ not realizing by hording our lives, we lose it all (*Mt 10:38–39*).

The choice is all yours. Our good and giving God is raising up a new generation of men and women to follow Him fully. Has God put His hand on your life for "such a time as this"?

The decision to grow always involves a choice between risk and comfort." John Ortberg



Take a look at *Matthew 13.1–23.* In this passage, Jesus shares a story to illustrate how the condition of our hearts can potentially lead to a life of influence, impact and purpose.

Observe the four different soils. How would you describe each one? Which soil best describes you right now and why?

The heart described by the soil along the path is ultimately unfruitful. The good news never takes root in that heart.

The heart described by the rocky soil is ultimately unfruitful. This heart doesn't mature, for it lacks the roots to keep it strong when stress, pressure, or burdens

threaten to overwhelm. In order to avoid lingering in the rocky soil, how can you intentionally help your roots grow deep in Jesus? The heart described by the soil with thorns and weeds is ultimately unfruitful. This heart struggles with two issues: the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches *Lk* 10.38-42; *Heb* 12.1-2. What are the inevitable thorns and weeds that could choke out your fruitfulness?

The heart described by the good soil is ultimately fruitful. This heart has a multiplied harvest, bearing fruit and bringing forth life. Good soil doesn't just happen.

How can you cultivate the good soil of your heart in order to have a fruitful life?



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The movement you were part of on campus and the vision you had for making a kingdom impact there were vital. They helped you fulfill God's purposes for you. Where will you find that same environment next?



Without a compelling community, few people can survive for long on their own. *Ecclesiastes 4* says, "It's better to have a partner than go it alone. Share the work... and if one falls down, the other helps." Who shares your heart, in that they, too, are surrendered to Jesus and have a vision for your industry or neighborhood?



If you aim at nothing you'll hit it every time. Unless you're a trained chef or just incredibly gifted, most people don't walk into the kitchen and whip up a gourmet meal without a recipe. It doesn't have to be elaborate, but the plan should have simple, doable steps that will help you begin to implement your God-given vision. What are your first three steps to bring about this vision for God's Kingdom?

Ongoing Equipping

Just as teachers, pilots and doctors need continuing education, so you will need ongoing equipping in order to make your best contribution to the kingdom.



Proverbs stresses the importance of gaining wisdom from others. We can never underestimate the blessing of another who has gone before us and learned a thing or two along the way. A coach is just that person: someone to answer your questions, help you when you might be stuck, or encourage you when the going gets tough. If there is someone already out there doing what you have a vision for? Can you join them?

<u>It's impossible to</u> <u>live the surrendered,</u> <u>fruitful life apart</u> <u>from Jesus Christ.</u>

Next:

- For reminders of how to live the surrendered life pick up the booklet, Satisfied?
- Work through "The 5 Things" with someone else.
- Join with others. AllCallings.com is a place to find others living a surrendered, fruitful life.
- Work through the In Transition magazine (www.CruPress.com) with a few friends.