

For reflection and prayer...

Discuss the questions from yesterday's assignment with your prayer partners.

Am I willing to ask God to make clear what needs to be surrendered to Him as I reflect on my identity? If not, can I identify why not?

Pray for each other in your group.

*Living out the Great
Commandment
through
Surrender and Trust*



2012 Women's Retreat

September 21 - September 23

"Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. 'The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. 'There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12: 28b-31

Three core convictions that enable me to surrender:

- 1. Confidence in God's sovereignty.*
- 2. Confidence in God's unfailing love.*
- 3. Confidence in the goodness of God.*

For Christ's sake, we as Christians care much about all suffering, especially everlasting suffering.
John Piper

*Extreme pain and extraordinary surrender go together often.
From Rob Bugh, When the Bottom Drops Out*

Now that you have purified
yourselves by obeying the truth
so that you have sincere love
for your brother, love one
another deeply, from the heart.
1 Peter 1:22

The Christian way is different: harder, and easier. Christ says, "Give me all. I don't want so much of your time and so much of your money and so much of your work: I want you. I have not come to torment your natural self, but to kill it. No half-measures are any good. I don't want to cut off a branch here and a branch there, I want to have the whole tree down. Hand over the whole natural self, all the desires which you think innocent as well as the ones you think wicked ---the whole outfit. I will give you a new self instead. In fact, I will give you Myself; my own will shall become yours.
--C.S.Lewis

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.
1 John 4:7

The most loving thing I can do for my neighbors is bring them to Jesus.

This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.
1 John 3:11

Good Reading

Living Sacrifice, by Dr. Helen Roseveare

Heart, Mind, Strength, Loving God with All You've Got, by
Sunder Krishnan

Surrender, the Heart God Controls, by Nancy Leigh DeMoss

Dangerous Surrender, What Happens When You Say Yes to
God, by Kay Warren

Let Go, by Fenelon

Hearing Jesus Speak into Your Sorrow, by Nancy Guthrie

When the Bottom Drops Out, Finding Grace in the Depths of
Disappointment, by Robert Bugh

31 Days of Praise, by Ruth Myers

31 Days of Power, by Ruth and Warren Myers

Your Most Basic Act of Worship

Lord, I'm Yours.

Whatever the cost may be, may Your will be done in my life.

I realize I'm not here on earth to do my own thing, or to seek my own fulfillment or my own glory.

I'm not here to indulge my desires, to increase my possessions, to impress people, to be popular, to prove I'm somebody important, or to promote myself.

I'm not here even to be relevant or successful by human standards.

I'm here to please You.

I offer myself to You, for You are worthy.

All that I am or hope to be, I owe to You.

I'm Yours by creation, and every day I receive from You, life and breath and all things. And I'm Yours because You bought me, and the price You paid was the precious blood of Christ.

You alone, the Triune God, are worthy to be my Lord and Master.

I yield to You, my gracious and glorious heavenly Father; to the Lord Jesus who loved me and gave Himself for me; to the Holy Spirit and His gracious influence and empowering.

All that I am and all that I have I give to You.

I give You any rebellion in me, which resists doing Your will.

I give You my pride and self-dependence, which tell me I can do Your will in my own power if I try hard enough.

I give You my fears, which tell me I'll never be able to do Your will in some areas of life.

I consent to let You energize me...to create within me, moment by moment, both the desire and the power to do Your will.

I give You my body and each of its members...my entire inner being: my mind, my emotional life, my will...my loved ones...my marriage or my hopes for marriage...my abilities and gifts...my strengths and weaknesses...my health...my status (high or low)...my possessions...my past, my present, and my future...when and how I'll go Home.

I'm here to love You, to obey You, to glorify You. O my Beloved, may I

be a joy to You!