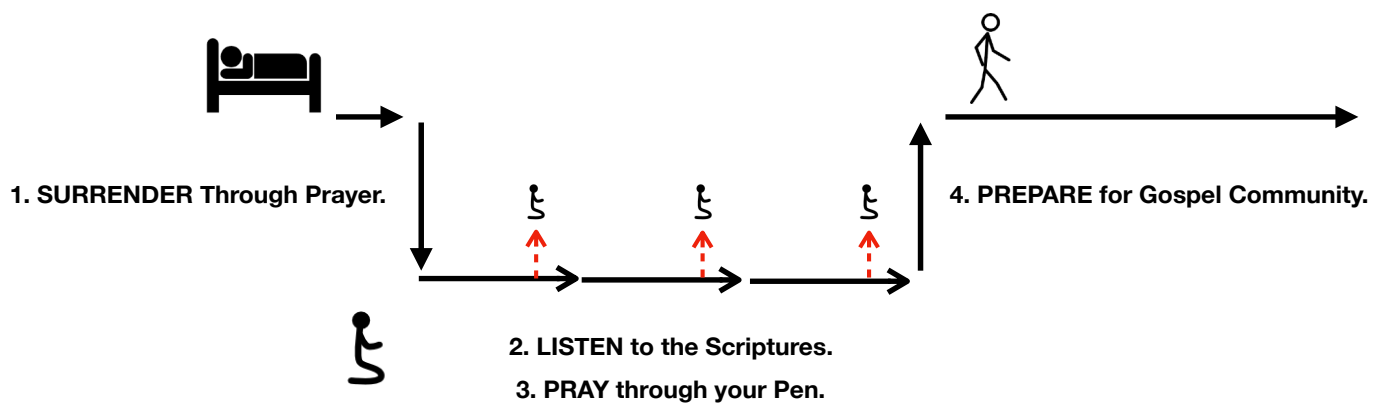


THE BIG IDEA –

Based on our Desire for Intimacy with **The LORD**... We “**SURRENDER** Through Prayer” at the start...
And Fight for Surrender...as we “**LISTEN** to The Scriptures”.

SECTION 1 – WHY AND HOW DO WE “SURRENDER THROUGH PRAYER”?

SECTION 2 – WHEN WILL WE NEED TO FIGHT FOR SURRENDER AS WE “LISTEN to The Scriptures”?



1 – WHY & HOW DO WE “SURRENDER THROUGH PRAYER”?

- A. We Pray **PRAYERS OF SURRENDER** because of the “*Divinity*” of The Scriptures.
- B. We Pray **PRAYERS FOR ILLUMINATION** because of the Necessity of The Spirit.
- C. We Pray **PRAYERS FOR TRANSFORMATION** because of the Potential in The Seed.
- D. We Pray **PRAYERS OF AUTHENTICITY** because of the Examples in The Word.

- A. We Pray **PRAYERS OF SURRENDER** because of the “*Divinity*” of The Scriptures.
 - 1. Hebrews 4:12 -13 *For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. [13] And no creature is hidden from HIS sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of HIM to whom we must give account.*
 - 2. 2 Timothy 3:16 *All Scripture is breathed out by God...*

3. Galatians 3:5-9 Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith—[6] just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? [7] Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. [8] And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” [9] So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.
4. The OT speaks of God’s Word in ways that is only appropriate to speak of God
 - i. Isaiah 66:5 – Tremble at His Word
 - ii. Psalm 56:4 – Praise God’s Word
 - iii. Psalm 119:161 – In Awe of God’s Word
 - iv. Psalm 119:162 – Rejoice at His Word
 - v. Psalm 19:7 – The Law (Instruction, Word, Torah) of the Lord is Perfect, Reviving the soul
5. James 1:19-21 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; [20] for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. [21] Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

“God’s written Word has the same power, authority, and divinity as the divine voice from heaven.” (John Frame, p58)

“God’s Word is God’s Dwelling Place in the world and in our hearts.” (John Frame, p58)

“Don’t seek to know God apart from His Word or read the Word without realizing that you are in the presence of God.” (p49)

“The Word is the very presence of God among us, the place where God dwells. So you cannot separate the Word of God from God Himself.” (John Frame, p48)

“The Goal of reading the Word is to listen for the voice of the God who speaks.” (Eugene Peterson Tweet)

B. We Pray **PRAYERS FOR ILLUMINATION** because of the Necessity of The Spirit.

1. 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5 For we know brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, [5] because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.
2. Ephesians 1:15-20 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, [16] I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, [18] having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might [20] that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,

C. We Pray **PRAYERS FOR TRANSFORMATION** because of the Potential in The Seed.

1. James 1:19-21 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; [20] for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. [21] Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.
2. 1 Thessalonians 2:13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

- D. We Pray **PRAYERS OF AUTHENTICITY** because of the Examples in The Word.
1. David in the Psalms
 2. Jesus in the Garden
 3. Elijah in the Cave
 4. Mary & Martha with Jesus at the death of Lazarus

TABLE EXERCISE

BREAK

2 – WHEN WILL WE NEED TO FIGHT FOR SURRENDER AS WE “LISTEN to The Scriptures”?

- A. We Fight for Surrender when **DISTRACTED** by The World.
1. Luke 8:4-15 And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, [5] “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. [6] And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. [7] And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. [8] And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”
[11] Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. [12] The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. [13] And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. [14] And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. [15] As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.
- B. We Fight for Surrender when **CONVICTED** by The Word.
1. Hebrews 4:12-16 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. [13] And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.
[14] Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. [15] For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. [16] Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

C. We Fight for Surrender when **CONFUSED** by His Ways.

1. Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-9

[8] “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways”, declares the LORD.

[9] For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

[1] “Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

[2] Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

[3] Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live;

and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

[6] “Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;

[7] let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. 2 Peter 3:14-18 Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these (New Heavens and a New Earth), be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. [15] And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, [16] as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. [17] You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. [18] But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

3. Philippians 3:15-16 Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. [16] Only let us hold true to what we have attained.

4. Deuteronomy 29:29 “The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.

5. 1 Corinthians 13:9-12 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, [10] but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. [11] When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. [12] For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

1. SURRENDER THROUGH PRAYER.

2. LISTEN TO THE SCRIPTURES (PSALM 131).

[1] O LORD, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high;
I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.

[2] But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child is my soul within me.

[3] O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time forth and forevermore.

3. PRAY THROUGH YOUR PEN.

Adoration Adore and Praise God for his Attributes and Actions	Confession Confess your Sinfulness and acknowledge your Sins
Thanksgiving Thank Jesus for his Salvation (past, present, future)	Supplication Ask for the Spirit to transform you in particular ways

4. PREPARE FOR GOSPEL COMMUNITY.

How has God impacted you the most through today's Passage?
