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- 1 Have you ever given up something you really wanted? Why were you willing to give it up?
- 2 Describe the difference between a life that depends on God versus a life that depends on resources.

Surrender (Abraham)

Genesis 22:2-3

"Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you." ³ The next morning Abraham got up early. He saddled his donkey and took two of his servants with him, along with his son, Isaac. Then he chopped wood for a fire for a burnt offering and set out for the place God had told him about.

- ① Why do you think God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac?

- ② Why do you think Abraham was prepared to surrender Isaac to God so quickly? Do you think you would do similar? Why or why not?

Surrender (Jesus)

Mark 14:32-42

³² They went to the olive grove called Gethsemane, and Jesus said, "Sit here while I go and pray." ³³ He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he became deeply troubled and distressed. ³⁴ He told them, "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." ³⁵ He went on a little farther and fell to the ground. He prayed that, if it were possible, the awful hour awaiting him might pass him by. ³⁶ "Abba, Father," he cried out, "everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine." ³⁷ Then he returned and found the disciples asleep. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Couldn't you watch with me even one hour?" ³⁸ Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak." ³⁹ Then Jesus left them again and prayed the same prayer as before. ⁴⁰ When he returned to them again, he found them sleeping, for they couldn't keep their eyes open. And they didn't know what to say. ⁴¹ When he returned to them the third time, he said, "Go ahead and sleep. Have your rest. But no—the time has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴² Up, let's be going. Look, my betrayer is here!"

- ① What do you think Jesus is wrestling with giving up? Why do you think this is such a difficult sacrifice for him to make?

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Surrender (Financial Giving)

Mark 10:29-30

"Yes," Jesus replied, "and I assure you that everyone who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or property, for my sake and for the Good News, will receive now in return a hundred times as many houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and property—along with persecution. And in the world to come that person will have eternal life."

- ① What does Jesus tell us in the passage about being materially sacrificial?

- ② More than the practical sacrifice, what does God desire with your sacrifice?
What does he desire of your heart?

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