

**Focus:** Surrender as a response of faith.

### 1. Review of Lent:

- a. Kerygma → Proclamation
  - i. The Goodness of Creation
  - ii. Sin and Its Consequences
  - iii. God's Response to Sin
  - iv. Our Response to God
- b. So far: first three parts
  - i. One left: Our Response → It's part of the story!

### 2. How should we reasonably respond to the action of God in Jesus? Tough question.

- a. Do we need to respond?
  - i. Imagine...You wake up in a cave. You can't find the way out.
  - ii. No food, no water, time passes → Panic
  - iii. *"Hey, I know the way out of here. Follow me."*
  - iv. **Do you believe him?** If yes, you're saved!
  - v. Then he turns and starts walking. If you don't move...
  - vi. A response is **necessary**. Yes.
  - vii. What is the response? Surrender. Submission.
    1. Surrender: submit to someone's authority; don't resist
    2. Submission: the action of yielding to a superior force. Come under the mission.
      - a. What's the mission? **Save you**.
- b. Why do I have to surrender and submit to Jesus?
  - i. John 14:1-6 → *I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.*
    1. If that's true, then that means there is no other way to Heaven.
    2. If I resist Jesus or refuse to submit to his authority, I will not end up in the presence of the Father. I will miss out on Heaven.
    3. If I don't place myself under his mission, then his mission for my life will not be fulfilled.
      - a. I don't know the way out of the cave. I don't have the torch.

### 3. Fake Surrender vs. Real Surrender

- a. Matthew 19:16-22 → *Teacher, what good must I do to gain eternal life? ...he went away sad...*
- b. 2 Kings 5:1-14 → Naaman had different expectations and was ready to walk away. His good servant: *do as he said*.
- c. Acts 2:14-37 → *"What are we to do, my brothers?"*
  - i. Convicted by the Kerygma, they placed their lives in the hands of the Lord and his Church.
- d. **Real Surrender** means:
  - i. Someone else has authority over my life. Jesus is Lord.
  - ii. I will be obedient. *"If you love me, keep my commands."* (John 14:15-24)
    1. I don't know the way out of the cave. He does.
  - iii. My preferences, my feelings, my thoughts are not as important as his.
    1. Isaiah 55:8-9: *As high as the heavens are above the earth, so are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.*
    2. Romans 12:1-2: *I urge you to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice...*
  - iv. In this particular case, I have to remember that I am surrendering to Love. He truly knows and wants what is best for me.

### Reflection Questions and Homework:

1. Do you believe that Jesus is good? That there is no other way?
2. Have you surrendered your entire life to him?
3. **Read: Acts 2:37-41; Matthew 3:1-12; Matthew 4:12-17; John 20:19-23; 1 John 5:13-17**