

## Growth Group Discussion Questions For Our Growth Groups “Mind Games”- Part 3

### **“Surrender: Who’s Name Is On Your Pink Slip”**

**Week of October 31, 2021**

**Summary-** *Mind Games* is a series of messages showing us how significant our thinking is in determining our current and future behavior. It shows us how essential transformation of our thinking is, if we are to truly follow Jesus. It will take a new way of thinking to go where He wants us to go so we can serve Him and love the people He died for and rose again.

**This week, we explored what surrender is all about.** There is no doubt that surrender is a foundational truth for Jesus followers. We don’t muscle our way to becoming more like Jesus... we surrender our way there! Denying yourself, taking up your cross and following Him makes surrender the way forward for building faith!

**Could it be that surrender is the “missing link” to us becoming more useful to Jesus?** Could saying YES to Jesus and NO to ourselves, like Peter did, cause us to be more on board with helping building our part of His kingdom? Let’s talk about that this week!

### **ICE BREAKER QUESTIONS**

1. What did you think when you heard Ben say, “the hardest thing about surrendering is no longer being in charge” and “the best thing about surrendering is no longer being in charge”?
2. Looking back at **“Surrender: Whose name is on your pink slip?”**...what’s one way you could more effectively surrender to God on a daily basis?
3. Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

### **GOING DEEPER**

1. Read the following verses and discuss the questions below:

**Luke 9:23** Then he said to the crowd, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me. **24** If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.

- a. If Jesus is the Lord and Savior, *and He’s your Lord and Savior*, discuss why it is often so hard to say NO to self and YES to Him.

- b. Look at verse 24. What is so wrong with trying to hang onto your life? And how do you go about giving up your life for Jesus' sake?

2. This weekend we were reminded that we don't own our life, we simply manage what God has given us. The following parable gives insight into how God reacts when we follow his plan or follow our own. Read Matthew 25:14-30 and answer the questions below:

**Matthew 25:14-30**

**14 "Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. 15 He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip.**

**16 "The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more. 17 The servant with two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more. 18 But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master's money.**

**19 "After a long time their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money. 20 The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said, 'Master, you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.'**

**21 "The master was full of praise. 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'**

**22 "The servant who had received the two bags of silver came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two bags of silver to invest, and I have earned two more.'**

**23 "The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'**

**24 "Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said, 'Master, I knew you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn't plant and gathering crops you didn't cultivate. 25 I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.'**

**26 "But the master replied, 'You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn't plant and gathered crops I didn't cultivate, 27 why didn't you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.'**

**28 "Then he ordered, 'Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. 29 To those who use well what they are given, even more will be**

**given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. 30 Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

- a. While God does not necessarily give us money to invest, he does give each of us talents, skills, and strengths to use for his purposes. How could God's reaction to how the three men used their "talents" motivate someone in their walk with God?

3. After listening to the message and discussing the sermon from Sunday on the subject of surrendering to Jesus, what will you take away from this foundational truth for your life?