Believe Study Guide  
Chapter 15: Total Surrender

**Personal Study**
Last week you examined the practice of single-mindedness. Perhaps you learned how important it is to fix your focus on God alone. This week before your group meeting, read *Believe, Chapter 15: Total Surrender*. Then spend some time allowing the Scripture to take root in your heart; evaluate your commitment to follow the King of Kings no matter the cost.

**Read**
*Read* *Believe, Chapter 15: Total Surrender* and answer the following questions.

1. Describe the common patterns found in these verses.

2. As you read this chapter, what questions came to your attention?

3. What did you read that astonished you? Confronted you? Motivated you?

4. Which story from this chapter encouraged you most? Why?

5. In what ways can your daily activities be an act of service to God?

6. Of all the stories of surrender you just read, which one can you relate to most? Why?

**Evaluate**
*Based on your reading from Believe, Chapter 15: Total Surrender, evaluate your level of confidence in the statements below, using a scale of 1 – 6 (1 = no confidence, 6 = complete certainty)*.

______ I am living out God’s purposes for my life.
______ I serve God through my daily work.
______ I give away things I possess, when I am so led by God.
______ I give up what I want to meet the needs of others.
Take Action
Memorizing Scripture is a valuable discipline for all believers to exercise. Spend a few minutes each day committing this week’s Key Verse to memory.

Key Verse: “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God — this is your true and proper worship.” (Romans 12:1)

Recite this week’s Key Idea out loud. As you do, ask yourself, Does my life reflect this statement?

Key Idea: I dedicate my life to God’s purposes.

Answer the following questions to help you apply this week’s Key Idea to your own life.

1. How would this practice express itself in your life?
2. What visible attributes can be found in someone who is totally surrendered to God?
3. What is impeding your ability fully submit your life to God’s purposes? How can you overcome this obstacle?
4. What action step can you take this week to move closer to a life that is entirely surrendered to God?

Journal
To help you keep all your Believe thoughts and materials in one place, note any verses or insights God gives you as you spend time with Him this week. This is also a great place to attach your sermon notes from the weekend messages.

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Group Meeting

Welcome!
Welcome to Session 15 of Believe. If there are any new members in your group, take a moment to introduce yourselves to each other before watching the video. Then, feel free to get started!

Video Teaching Notes
As you watch the video segment for Session 4, use the following outline to record some of the main points.

Getting Started
Begin your discussion by reciting the Key Verse and Key Idea together as a group. On your first attempt, use your notes if you need help. On your second attempt, try to state them completely from memory.

Key Verse: “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God — this is your true and proper worship.” (Romans 12:1)

Key Idea: I dedicate my life to God’s purposes
**Group Discussion**

As a group, discuss your thoughts and feelings about the following declarations. Which statements are easy to declare with certainty? Which are more challenging, and why?

- I am living out God’s purposes for my life.
- I serve God through my daily work.
- I give away things I possess, when I am so led by God.
- I give up what I want to meet the needs of others.

*Your LifeGroup Leader will choose 2-3 questions that will lead to the best discussion about this week’s Key Idea.*

1. Discuss what it takes (mentally, spiritually, emotionally) to be a person who is completely surrendered to God’s purposes.
2. Not everyone is called to vocational ministry. So, what does total surrender look like for a school teacher, plumber, artist, business owner, or you?
3. The apostle Peter learned that total surrender is easier said than done. In what ways can you relate to his story?
4. As ambassadors of Christ, discuss how acts of sacrifice and surrender can reflect the love of God to people in our daily lives.

*Read the section “Profiles of Total Surrender” in* Believe (pages 235 – 240) *and choose 1 – 2 questions that will lead to the greatest discussion in your group.*

1. Although the world we live in is drastically different, in what ways can you relate to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?
2. What qualities or virtues, if any, do you see in them that you would like to possess?
3. In this story and many others found in the Bible, people make bold decisions in order to fulfill God’s purposes. Discuss the origins of boldness. In other words, where does boldness come from? Is it a personality trait? Is it generated through willpower? Is it given by God? Or is it developed over time?

**Closing Prayer**

Close your time together with prayer. Share your prayer requests with one another. Ask God to help you put this week’s Key Idea into practice.