

SURRENDER STRONGER

CONNECT MEMBERS TO ONE ANOTHER

What's the farthest place you've ever traveled to?

Have you ever served on a foreign mission trip or met a Christian from another culture outside America?

Did you observe anything in the lives of the believers in that part of the world that particularly impressed you or struck you as different from American Christianity?

CONNECT MEMBERS TO GOD

In the message we learned that resistance to God is far more costly than surrender. When we live God's way, he strengthens our lives with spiritual fruit that help life be more meaningful and fulfilling. The ultimate fulfillment is found in Revelation 22 where the Tree of Life is now found as trees of many fruits with leaves that heal the nations. We surrender to God because of the promises He gives.

What did you think of the phrase "The Holy Spirit grows Spiritual Fruit not Religious Nuts"?

How could you tell the whole story of the Bible through the metaphor of a tree?

When Jesus says in Revelation 21:5 that he is "making everything new" what does that mean to you?

MESSAGE APPLICATION

In Exodus 16, the Jewish people were led from slavery in Egypt toward a new promised land. Unfortunately, they spent the bulk of the time grumbling about what they left behind instead of anticipating the freedom God planned for them. They would rather live in slavery than surrender to a God that wants to make them stronger.

How can you make sure you don't allow a grumbling spirit get in the way of what God wants to do in your life?

How is God calling you to "take up your cross and follow Jesus" more fully (Matthew 16:24)?

Do you know of someone who models "surrender stronger"?

Let's demonstrate the fruits of the Spirit in our community! Challenge yourself to do two random acts of kindness for strangers and consider supporting local businesses in your neighborhood (suggestions below).

1. Create chalk art or messages in front of neighbor's house
2. Add money to an expired meter

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