

The Cost Of Obedience
Small Group Study Questions

Opening Question:

If you could give up one thing in your life to gain something better, what would you give up and what would you hope to gain?

General Observation:

1. What stood out to you most from the story of Abraham being asked to sacrifice Isaac? What emotions do you think Abraham might have experienced?

Understanding the Message:

2. The pastor said, "Jesus is Lord of all or not Lord at all." What do you think this means practically in a person's life?

3. In the sermon, the story of Michael Phelps' intense training was shared. How does this relate to the concept of surrender and obedience to God?

4. The pastor mentioned that obedience can be costly to those around us. Can you think of any Biblical examples where someone's obedience to God affected their relationships?

Personal Application:

5. The sermon challenged us to consider areas of our lives we haven't fully surrendered to God. Without sharing specifics, how easy or difficult is it for you to identify these areas in your own life?

6. How might your life look different if you approached each day with the mindset that "apart from Jesus, you can do nothing" (John 15:5)?

7. The pastor said, "Until you surrender, you may never really live." How does this statement challenge or encourage you in your current circumstances?

Action Steps:

8. This week, take some time to prayerfully consider one area of your life where you struggle to let Jesus be Lord. What's one small step you can take to surrender that area to God?

9. How can we as a group encourage and support each other in living lives of full surrender to Jesus?

Sample Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we confess that there are areas in our lives where we've held back from fully surrendering to You. Help us to trust You more, even when obedience is costly. Thank You that You don't just clean up our messes, but You want to be Lord of every part of our lives. Give us the courage to adjust our lives to Your will, knowing that Your ways are higher than ours. We want to experience the full life that comes from complete dependence on You. In Your name we pray, Amen.