

Live a Surrendered Life

John 5:18-30

1. INTRO:

- a. Jesus said and did some things that seem crazy and not thought out
 - i. But Jesus was completely tactical, strategic, planned in everything
- b. I'm not like Jesus. I get fiery, I get emotional, I get excited, I get scared. I talk too much. I contribute my flesh rather than my Spirit.
 - i. When I look back at my life, I know there is a lot more of "me" doing things than Jesus doing things through me.
- c. But this isn't the way that Jesus lived, and it isn't the way that God wants us to live.
 - i. It's easy to say, "Well Jesus was perfect, so everything he did was perfect," and that's true, but when we frame it like that it removes responsibility from us.
 - ii. More accurately stated, **"Jesus lived in a constant state of surrender to the Father. Everything he said, did, and prayed was completely in line with the Father's will - and we are called to live the same way."**

2. JOHN 5:18-31

- a. *[18] This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.*
 - i. Recap last week: Jesus heals on Sabbath (intentionally) and then calls God Father (claiming to be God) and people lose their minds over it
- b. *[19] So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. [20] For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel. [21] For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. [22] For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, [23] that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.*
 - i. Flow of the text:
 - 1. I can't do anything without the Father
 - a. Why? B/C I only do what he does
 - i. Why? B/C the Father loves me, therefore he shows me what he wants
 - 2. God is going to show me greater works to do than this healing
 - a. Why? So that you may marvel!
 - i. Why? B/C raising the dead is going to blow your mind and the Father is going to give me that right
 - 1. Why? Because the Father wants me to be

in charge of judgment.

a. Why? So that I will be honored just as the Father is honored.

- ii. "I said that on purpose b/c I don't do anything unless the Father tells me to do it."
 - 1. Jesus is the faithful son
 - a. C.f. failed sons
 - 2. Jesus is the faithful Adam
 - a. C.f. Adam didn't go to God for knowledge
 - 3. Jesus is the faithful humanity
 - a. C.f. all mankind's intentions are bent towards evil
 - b. C.f. Nations didn't administer justice
 - 4. Jesus is the faithful Israel
 - a. C.f. Designed to represent God, but didn't
 - b. C.f. Pillar of smoke and fire
 - 5. Jesus is the faithful King
 - a. C.f. Reign in God's stead, but misrepresented him
 - 6. Jesus is the faithful Priest
 - a. C.f. Eli's sons who stole from people and manipulated
 - 7. Jesus is the faithful Prophet
 - a. C.f. Prophets who spoke their own words
 - b. C.f. Even Moses misrepresented God
 - iii. In obedience to the Father, Jesus keeps reinforcing that word "Father" when speaking of God:
 - 1. I see my Father...
 - 2. I follow my Father...
 - 3. The Father loves me...
 - 4. He shows me everything...
 - 5. The Father raises the dead (hint hint)
 - 6. He involves me in the process
 - 7. He assigns me to do the judging so that all will give me the honor I deserve (just like Father's honor)
 - 8. Every knee will bow...
 - iv. It will cost him his life... but God will raise him from the dead, thereby glorifying himself and the Son
 - 1. Jesus only did what he saw the Father do. He says what the Father wants him to say. He prays how the Father wants him to pray.
 - v. Jesus is led by the Spirit. He has God's heart. And this results in glory to God and honor to the Son.
 - vi. **Everything Jesus did was in surrender.**
- c. *[24] Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. [25] "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. [26] For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. [27] And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. [28] Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who*

are in the tombs will hear his voice [29] and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

- i. As Jesus hears the Father's voice and listens to it, so those who belong to him here his voice
 - 1. He speaks, they hear, they believe
 - 2. What is the result? Eternal life
 - a. That means that he isn't judged, but passes from death to life
- ii. All who hear the Son's voice will live, but if you don't hear it - you will die!
 - 1. As the Son can do nothing apart from the Father
 - 2. You can do nothing apart from the Son
 - 3. As the Father has granted life to the Son
 - 4. I have granted life to those who hear my voice
- iii. In other words, As the Father is to me, so I am to my followers
 - 1. So that the Son may be honored as the Father is honored

d. [30] "I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

- i. Jesus doesn't do anything. Not a single thing. Not a lick without God
 - 1. That should blow your mind!
- ii. Why is his judgement just? Because he is locked in step w/ the Father
- iii. Why does he know that his actions are the will of God? B/C he is locked in step with the Father
- iv. Jesus is so in tune w/ the Father that everything he says and does is an overflow of that relationship

3. DISCOVERY STUDY

a. What does this teach about Jesus?

i. Everything that Jesus did was in surrender to the Father.

- 1. The miracles - b/c the Father wants them
- 2. The sermons - b/c the Father wants them
- 3. The day trips to Samaria - b/c the Father wants it
- 4. Jesus does whatever the Father wants him to do

ii. Why? So that the Son and the Father will be honored.

- 1. It isn't b/c the Father is draconian and likes telling people what to do
- 2. The Father WANTS the Son to be honored and glorified b/c he loves him

b. What does this teach about me?

i. As Jesus hears the Father's voice, those who belong to Jesus hear his voice.

- 1. John 10 later explained in greater depth
- 2. First, this means salvation
- 3. Second, it means daily surrender

- ii. **If I am in Christ, everything that I do should be in surrender to God.**
- iii. **For what purpose? That the Son would be honored in me, and that I would be glorified by the Son.**

c. What do I do about it?

- i. **Live a surrendered life.**
- ii. When he goes, we go. When he stays, we stay. What he wants us to say, we should say. What he wants us to pray, we should pray.
- iii. We are called to keep coming back to him for knowledge (like Adam should have)
- iv. We are called to trust our dad for wisdom (as his children should have)
- v. We are called to represent him as a kingdom of priests and ambassadors (as Israel should have)
- vi. We are called to represent him as little kings (as people and the monarchs should have)
- vii. We are called to faithfully proclaim the Words of God and not our own (as the prophets should have)
- viii. This is the life that Jesus lived. Jesus is the picture of a perfectly surrendered life and we are being made like Christ
- ix. So we must walk in the Spirit, keep in step w/ the Spirit.
- x. If this idea is foreign to you, and you haven't read it yet, **Buy a copy of Spirit Walk by Steve Smith.**

4. Final thought: Read section from More Disciples

- a. When we live a surrendered life, we live the life he has designed for us to live
- b. We have enough hours in the day b/c we are doing the work he told us to do
- c. There isn't too much noise in our lives b/c we are speaking and listening appropriately
- d. If we want to live the life that God has for us, we MUST be surrendered to his Spirit's leading moment by moment, day by day, year by year
- e. **If Jesus says that he CAN DO NOTHING apart from the Father, how much more does that apply to us?**
- f. **Learn from Jesus. Live a surrendered life.**