

THE PENTECOSTALS *of* ALEXANDRIA

Days of Surrender

AUGUST 2026

What Is Surrender?

Traditional dictionaries define “surrender” as yielding to the power, control, or possession of another—often under compulsion or demand. In the natural world, surrender is associated with defeat, loss, and giving up. But surrender to God is altogether different. It is not an act of defeat, but an act of worship. Surrendering to God is the yielding of every area of our lives into His hands, trusting Him completely and following wherever He leads. What appears to be weakness in the temporal world becomes our greatest strength in the eternal one. In the physical world, surrender carries the weight of fear and failure; in the spiritual world—the only world that truly lasts—it is filled with sweetness, freedom, hope, and the promise of God’s perfect will.

Surrender may look like:

- Choosing obedience when it would be easier to do our own thing.
- Trusting God when circumstances don’t make sense.
- Releasing hurts, disappointments, and unforgiveness.
- Letting go of the need to control outcomes.
- Putting God’s agenda ahead of our own.
- Giving God our time as we seek His will daily through Scripture and prayer.

The Bible is filled with people who surrendered to God’s call:

- Abraham left everything familiar to follow God and move to a strange new land. (Genesis 12:1-9)
- Mary said “yes” to God’s plan in spite of the risk of shame and the fear of uncertainty. (Luke 1:26-38)
- Daniel surrendered his safety and position in order to maintain his prayer life. (Daniel 6:1-23)
- Paul surrendered his misguided beliefs and lifestyle to become a Christian. (Acts 9:1-22)

Their surrender led to God’s purpose being fulfilled through their lives.

Why Surrender?

The Christian life begins with surrender, but it doesn’t end there. Every day we are faced with a choice: Will we follow our own desires, or will we trust God with our lives? Will we sacrifice our own agenda and make room for God to work in us and through us? Surrender is not weakness; it is an act of trust.

Many of us carry burdens we were never meant to bear— the need to control situations, fear of the future, disappointment from the past, the pressure to fix everyone around us, and the constant need to have our own way. Jesus invites us to lay these things down and follow Him.

When we surrender:

1. We draw closer to God.
2. We learn to trust His wisdom above our own as we experience greater freedom and peace.
3. We become more sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
4. We discover the joy of living according to His purpose.

Jesus demonstrated perfect surrender when He prayed “Not my will, but Yours be done.” True surrender is not losing our life—it is finding our life in Christ.

And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.

He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

(Matthew 10:38-39)

The 21-Day Path to Surrender

Week One: Consecrate August 2–8

This week, as a church family, we will focus on surrendering our physical appetites through fasting. Throughout Scripture, there are many examples of corporate sacrifices preceeding great victories. Below are just a few examples:

- Jehoshaphat and Judah: Victory Without Fighting — 2 Chronicles 20:1–30
- Nineveh: Mercy Instead of Judgment — Jonah 3:5–10
- Esther and the Jews: Deliverance from Extermination — Esther 4:15–17 (fulfilled in chapters 5–9)

Something powerful happens when God's people seek Him together with one heart and one purpose. As we unite in sacrifice, we can believe God for victory in our homes, our church, and our community. Choose a fast that stretches your faith while remaining sustainable, intentional, and centered on prayer. Sacrifice is not a contest—it is a personal act of self-denial that weakens the flesh and strengthens the spirit. Fasting is not a hunger strike designed to bend God to our will; it is an act of surrender that bends our will to His. Each moment of discomfort and denial is an invitation to turn our hearts toward God. Every time we feel the sacrifice, let it become a reminder to pray, worship, and seek His presence.

Examples of fasting include:

- Giving up sugar or desserts
- Giving up coffee or soft drinks
- Limiting certain foods
- Fasting one meal each day
- A traditional fast as you feel led

“Man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.” (ESV)

(Deuteronomy 8:3, Matthew 4:4)

Week Two: Separate August 9–15

This week focuses on surrendering distractions. Choose something that regularly competes for your attention, and intentionally separate yourself from it.

Examples include:

- Social media
- Gaming
- Television or streaming
- News consumption
- Entertainment media

Use the time and attention you regain to read Scripture, pray and worship, reflect on His Word, and listen for God's voice.

"Be still, and know that I am God."
(Psalm 46:10)

Week Three: Seek **August 16–22**

This week focuses on surrendering our schedules and priorities through prayer.

Throughout the week we will gather for corporate prayer and seek God together.

Morning Prayer Gathering (6-7 AM)

(POA Sanctuary)

Evening Prayer Gathering (6-7 PM)

(POA Sanctuary)

Whether you attend every gathering or only a few, commit to spending intentional time with God each day.

As we pray, we believe God will:

- Prepare our hearts
- Strengthen our faith
- Restore our peace
- Destroy our obstacles
- Supply our needs
- Revive our passion
- Unite our church

"I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me."
(Proverbs 8:17)

This journey is not about perfection. It is about pursuing God. As we walk the path to surrender together, may we discover that every sacrifice offered to God becomes an opportunity for deeper trust, greater freedom, and a closer relationship with Him.